

## Dr Shtern is released from jail as KGB seizes Jewish activist

**Abbey Personal Retirement Plan**  
T/10/3/PRP

... ..

The Nine are also divided over the Commission's suggestions for trimming the so-called "green" currencies, the units in which Community farm prices are calculated. Indeed, this will probably be the most difficult part of the price review to resolve.

The ministers are still hoping to complete their deliberations at a final marathon meeting in Brussels in 10 days' time, so that the new prices can take effect from April 1.

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## HOME NEWS

## Unprecedented union backing for Leyland, Prime Minister says

By Our Political Staff

Conservative MPs who made sarcastic remarks about British Leyland when the Prime Minister spoke of the "remarkable job" done by the trade unions in the car industry were told by Mr Callaghan yesterday: "This is a very serious matter, not a laughing matter."

He added: "The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions issued an unprecedented statement today, stating that they have never happened in our industrial history; where they have agreed with British Leyland that if, when the factories and workshops open on Monday, the men do not go back to work they will be regarded as having discharged themselves."

"This is unprecedented, and Mr Scanlon and other trade union leaders deserve the full support of the Opposition and everybody else."

But Mr Callaghan also had a warning for the British Leyland workers. "What has happened so far means that the Government will have to review the future of British Leyland in the light of the way the situation develops," he said.

"Whatever happens now, a review of British Leyland's plan for 1977 will be needed. How drastic it will be will depend on the speed with which the men return to work."

Sir Keith Joseph, the Opposition's chief industry spokesman, said on the independent television programme *News at One* yesterday that selling off the more profitable parts of British Leyland would be one solution to the company's difficulties. Managing the parts separately would be another, "eliminating down the unsuccessful parts until it performs competitively."

"If it cannot perform competitively, then investing the

taxpayer's money is the same as throwing it down the drain. Every day, even today, there are firms laying off labour because of the cost to those firms in taxation, in interest rates, in inflation, as a result of subsidies going to British Leyland."

"These rescue operations are not costless. They have to be paid for by the taxpayer, and every penny taken from the taxpayer causes unemployment somewhere in the country. Rescues do a great deal of damage. They have to be paid for out of the earnings of people in healthy firms."

R. W. Shakespeare writes: By yesterday about 41,500 Leyland workers were laid off and management spokesmen said that all but a thousand of them had been directly affected by the toolmakers' strike. Ten Leyland models were out of production because of the dispute.

All the workers laid off will be recalled on Monday morning but the rate at which vehicle production can be resumed will depend on how the tool room men respond to the company's ultimatum and how soon component supplies begin to flow again.

The extent to which Leyland could "farm out" the work normally done by its own tool room men is problematical. Much of it involves work within the plants on maintenance and the repair of breakdowns, and it seems unlikely that outside engineering companies or contractors, many of whom are short of skilled workers, will be able to help.

Throughout the tool room dispute the strike leaders have maintained that the erosion of differentials and the lowering of status of skilled men not only within the car plants but in engineering generally is one of the main factors in a shortage of skilled men in the industry.

## Police Federation boycotts talks on pay increase

Representatives of the 120,000 members of the Police Federation boycotted yesterday's three-hour meeting of the Police Council in London, despite a request by the Prime Minister to attend to settle their 56-week claim.

Sir John Nightingale, Chief Constable of Essex and chairman of the Police Council, said later that efforts would be made informally to persuade them to return to the negotiating table. The federation walked out of the council in October after

they had been told that their pay demand would break the social contract.

Sir John said last night that he hoped that by describing future talks as "informal and outside the normal framework of the Police Council" the federation would be able to agree to restart negotiations.

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the federation, said: "We are always prepared to talk about pay outside the Police Council."

## Step taken towards sex equality in pensions

By Margaret Stone

Equal treatment for women and men in occupational pension schemes came a step nearer yesterday when the Government issued its detailed proposals for legislation in that area.

The proposals will outlaw sex discrimination in pension schemes in respect of contributions, benefits, options and arrangements for the preservation and transfer of benefit. However, differences between male and female retirement ages are to continue.

Details of the proposed legislation take the form of a consultative document. It is the second time within 12 months that the Department of Health and Social Security has come back for advice and comment on how it should tackle equal treatment for men and women in private pension schemes.

When the Occupational Pensions Board first delivered its report on equal status for the sexes last August the Government moved quickly to adopt its proposals for both legislation and voluntary improvement of pension schemes.

The evidence it has received after its first consultative document has led to some small changes in its approach, notably where one spouse can choose whether or not to make provision for the other, and pensions for divorced or separated wives.

The Government has modified its original intention that in cases of dispute between husband and wife the scheme trustees should have the final word, but it still feels that general legislation on exercising options is required, leaving it to individual companies to decide how best to implement it.

In respect of divorced or separated wives it suggests that the courts should be empowered only to allocate provision for them after the death of a scheme member.

Where the Occupational Pensions Board has recommended voluntary action, it is the Government's view that it should be encouraged by the adoption of a code of conduct. A Bill is to be introduced as soon as possible and the Government says that although evidence is required by the end of June that should not be taken as an assurance that the Bill will not be introduced before then.

## Churchill exhibition

A new exhibition of paintings and prints taken from paintings by Sir Winston Churchill opens at Blenheim Palace on Monday and October 31.

## Immigrants' children 'will have to fight for better jobs'

By Diana Geddes

First-generation black and Asian immigrants, most of whom are concentrated in unattractive or low-paid jobs, are likely to remain in those jobs throughout their working lives. But there are signs of better job prospects for the second generation, although they will not be achieved without a struggle.

Those are the two main conclusions of a report by the Department of Employment's Unit for Manpower Studies on the role of immigrant workers in the labour market. Most of the statistical data are derived from the 1971 census, but the field work was carried out in 1974 and 1975.

The report says that immigrants, particularly those from the New Commonwealth, are concentrated in unskilled and semi-skilled jobs for which it is difficult to recruit, or retain, other workers because, for instance, of the need to work awkward hours, unpleasant working

environments, or relatively low earnings.

Immigrants were found to be more likely than other workers to be employed in low-paid industrial jobs, such as textiles and clothing, and in unpleasant jobs, such as those in foundries, where the work was unusually hot, heavy and dirty, and in some sections of the rubber and plastics industry, where conditions were often hot and smelly.

Immigrants were also more likely than others to be employed on shifts, particularly night shifts, to work long hours; some were found to be regularly working shifts of 10 or 12 hours five days a week.

Although immigrants (including those born in the Irish Republic) made up about 6 per cent of the total working population in Britain, they account for much of the labour force in certain industries and companies.

In the London Brick Company's Stewarts works, near Bedford, for example, 45 per cent of the hourly paid workers were born outside the British

isles; in the northern textile industry night shifts are often manned almost entirely by Asian workers; and in London there is a marked dependence on immigrant labour in some public services and in hotels and catering.

The most common explanation, given by three quarters of employers, of why their organizations had a high concentration of immigrant workers was the difficulty of attracting other workers.

Other reasons included their location near an immigrant area, the tendency for immigrants, especially Asians, to help their friends and relatives to find jobs, the immigrants' preference for higher earnings rather than leisure, and a tendency for white workers to leave when concentrations of immigrant, especially Asian, workers exceeded a certain level.

Racial discrimination was an obstacle to finding a job and in obtaining promotion, the report says. Discrimination, however, was not simply a matter of

employers rejecting black applicants through prejudice; it might also occur because employees or customers would object if they took on a black employee.

First-generation immigrants were often further hampered by language difficulties. A recent survey found that two thirds of Asians aged over 45 spoke English only slightly or not at all, lack of education or training, and insufficient length of service to qualify for promotion.

Many of those "obstacles to upward mobility" were likely to be at least lowered for the second generation of immigrants, who have had much of their education in Britain, the report suggests. Many young black people rejected what they saw as the low-status, menial jobs of their parents.

The report points to other factors that are likely, in its view, to improve the employment prospects of young black people: the changing attitude of the trade unions; specific

measures taken by the Government and such organizations as the Community Relations Commission to combat racial disadvantage—training courses and advice centres, for example; and the new anti-discrimination legislation incorporated in the Race Relations Act, which is about to come into force.

The report's conclusion is less than wholly optimistic, however. Even black people who have had much of their education in Britain are subject to serious disadvantages, it says. But there was some evidence to suggest that young black people with the appropriate qualifications are entering high quality jobs, "though they often need to make more determined and protracted efforts than white men and girls with similar qualifications to obtain them."

The role of immigrants in the labour market: Project report by the Unit for Manpower Studies (Crawley, Sussex), prepared for the Department of Employment, Steel House, 11 Totterdell Street, London SW11.

## Hostile reaction to plan to cut mortgage relief

By David Leigh

Labour Party lobbying to persuade the Government to restrict mortgage tax relief brought a predictably hostile response from Conservatives yesterday. The Prime Minister made it clear that present policy ought to be reconsidered, but was not going to be a feature of the forthcoming Budget.

"The trouble with our mortgage-interest tax relief is that, like Topsy, it has just grown," he said. "There is a good case for reviewing it as the housing finance review is now doing, and we shall present our conclusions to the House in due course."

The review process was taking longer than he had hoped, but it was complex and he did not want to have it rushed.

This is a highly sensitive political matter, as the Labour National Executive Committee's housing subcommittee was aware when it put its proposals to Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, on Monday.

There is a running argument between those who think housing subsidies are too soft on council tenants, and those who think owner-occupiers do too well out of the inflation-distorted system. There is also the difficulty of the resentful high-wage earner.

The Transport House briefing paper conceded: "It is

sometimes argued that adjustments to mortgage relief could not be counterproductive because this relief is prized as one of the few remaining ways of offsetting high tax rates, especially for taxpayers above the standard rate."

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, the Shadow Chancellor, put it more pungently yesterday in a speech in the City of London: "The proposal would be a hammer-blow to the morale of middle management at a time when serious and growing damage to industrial efficiency is already being caused by financial pressures on managers' living standards, which have fallen by up to one-third in the past five years."

Home-buyers are excused tax on their mortgage interest, although a maximum mortgage limit was set at £25,000 two years ago. The NEC members think the present system wasteful and unfair because the better-off, on high tax rates, get correspondingly more valuable tax excusals; because people who have had mortgages for a long time pay out only a small part of their income on housing; and because first-time buyers still suffer heavy fiscal burdens.

They want tax relief phased out for levels above the standard rate, to save £110m; a cut in the £25,000 ceiling to a level set at regional average house costs; and an end to tax relief after 25 years of a mortgage.

Parliament, page 14



Trophy joins its captor: which Flight Lieutenant J. N. Boothman won it for Britain in 1931. The gift, presented by Vice Admiral Sir Richard Smeaton, was accepted by Dr Margaret Weston, museum director.

## Cameramen plan to stop song contest transfer

BBC cameramen want to stop the Eurovision song contest, from which Britain has withdrawn, as soon as possible in any other country.

The Association of Broadcasting and Allied Staffs, in which the cameramen belong, said last night that it would ask other European broadcasting unions not to stage the contest.

The request comes after reports that three other countries could be host to the show.

The Dutch, who staged the show last year, said they would do so again if trade unions agreed but withdrew the offer when unions blacked the show. Two other countries, it was said, are interested in mounting the contest are West Germany and Portugal.

The contest was forced out of Britain when the cameramen refused to give assurance that the show would not be affected by industrial action. The cameramen, in dispute over pay grades, blacked out the contest to find the British entry for the show.

It is understood the cameramen's union will approach other broadcasting unions in a bid to block the programme. Through the international umbrella of broadcasters, unions, other European countries will be asked to back the boycott as well.

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## 'Shot' from bullet machine killed woman

Only minutes after a safety session at an ordnance factory Mrs Vera was shot. It was stated yesterday at an inquest at Kidsgrove, north Staffordshire. The coroner, Mr Frederick Hails, was told that woman workers disregarded safety regulations.

The woman, called examiners at the Royal Ordnance Factory at Radway Green, Cheshire, were read the rules as usual by the chargehand on December 6. A few minutes later a 7.62 cartridge struck Mrs Banks in the chest, and despite two emergency operations she died two days later. Mrs Banks, who was 43, lived in Pear Tree Road, Audley, Stoke.

Mr Hails was told that operating problems with the machines that check the gauge and weight of live bullets were corrected by the women. Machines would jam occasionally, particularly when two bullets stuck in the measuring system.

Although machines should be switched off and skilled machine setter called, Mrs Mavis Brown, a chargehand, said that was not done and women removed the safety trans and dislodged bullets. The jury returned an open verdict and recommended that the bullet traps should be locked, that the keys should be left with qualified machine-setters and that the practice of releasing jammed bullets by hand should cease.

## Mummified body found in store trolley

Detectives last night were investigating the discovery of the mummified body of a man in a garage roomed off block of multi-storey flats. The man, aged 55 to 65, was in a supermarket trolley at Eldon Block, Ashfield Valley, Rochdale, Greater Manchester. The police said he had been dead for six months but had been in the garage room for less than a week.

Det Chief Supt Thomas Burner of Greater Manchester said: "It is possible that he was wheeled a mile to a mile and a half in the trolley to Ashfield Valley. The state of mummification suggests the body had been kept indoors in a dry, warm atmosphere."

## Faster trains next month

The £20m improvements to the rail approaches to King's Cross station, London, are nearly complete. From April 4 trains will be able to travel at 100 mph from Wood Green, only 41 miles from the station. Improvements will also be ready by then to enable high-speed trains to travel at 125 mph from Knebworth.

## Murder-trial jury told of ex-soldier's missing hours

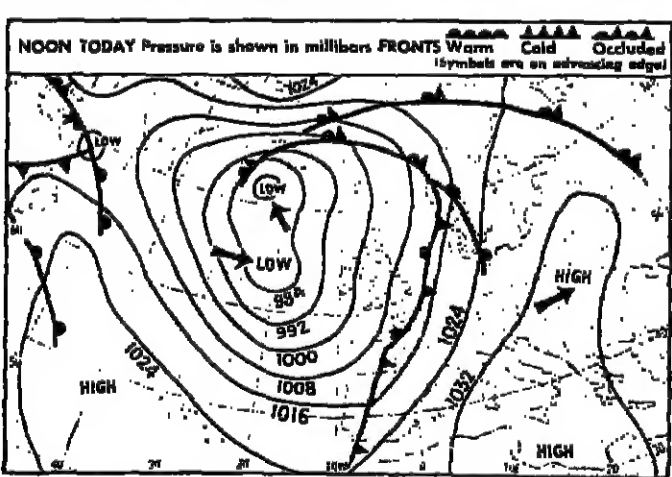
Robert Williams, aged 26, a former soldier, accused of murdering a man of 63, told a jury at Bristol Crown Court yesterday of a missing three hours in his memory of the night of the alleged killing. Mr Williams, who once served in Belgium, said he could remember a fight and a "bang".

"The next thing I remember was looking down the wrong end of a gun, looking down the barrel of a revolver," he said.

Mr Williams, a van driver, of North Street, Bedminster, Bristol, has denied murdering James Spence, father of the woman he was living with. The prosecution has alleged that Mr Spence was shot dead at the Shooter's Wheel service station near Axbridge, Somerset, on November 29 last year. Mr Williams has also pleaded not guilty to possessing a shotgun with intent to endanger life.

The trial continues today.

## Weather forecast and recordings



Today  
Sun rises: 6.13 am  
Sun sets: 6.7 pm  
Moon rises: 4.25 am  
Moon sets: 2.45 pm

New moon: March 19.  
Lighting up: 6.37 pm to 5.41 am.  
High water: London Bridge, 11.16 am, 6.4m (20.9ft); 11.43 pm, 6.4m (20.9ft).  
Low water: London Bridge, 11.16 am, 1.4m (4.6ft); 11.43 pm, 1.4m (4.6ft).  
Dover, 8.39 am, 5.8m (19.1ft); 9.7 pm, 6.0m (19.6ft).  
Nash, 3.34 am, 6.3m (20.7ft); 3.50 pm, 6.4m (21.1ft).  
Liverpool, 8.45 am, 8.2m (27.1ft); 9.22 pm, 8.3m (27.3ft).  
Pressure will be low to the W of the British Isles with a S air stream covering most districts.  
Forecast for 6 am to midnight:  
Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Changeable, sunny intervals and showers, heavy and prolonged in places, temp near normal but becoming colder in N. London, East Angles, SE, E. Central S England, Midlands (E); Bright intervals but rather cloudy at times with showers merging into longer spells of rain; wind S, fresh, occasionally strong; max temp 5° or 10°C (48° or 50°F).  
Midlands (W), Channel Islands, Wales, SW NW, Central N England: Bright or sunny intervals, showers, occasionally heavy and prolonged with thunder; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 7° or 8°C (45° or 46°F).  
Orkney, Shetland: Bright or sunny intervals, showers occasionally heavy; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).  
Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind S, gale, perhaps severe gale at times, at first; sea very rough.  
English Channel (E): Wind S, strong to gale; sea rough.  
St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW, strong to gale; sea very rough.

Yesterday  
London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 11°C (52°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 7°C (45°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 84 per cent. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 0.6m. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, nil.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY		MIDDAY		C. cloud: F. fair:	
Alps	17.5	Cologne	10.9	London	15.6
Amsterdam	11.2	Dublin	11.2	Manchester	11.2
Antwerp	11.2	Edinburgh	11.2	Nottingham	11.2
Birmingham	11.2	Glasgow	11.2	Oxford	11.2
Bristol	11.2	Harrogate	11.2	Sheffield	11.2
Cardiff	11.2	Leeds	11.2	Stirling	11.2
Cardigan	11.2	Liverpool	11.2	Swansea	11.2
Carlisle	11.2	London	11.2	Torquay	11.2
Carmarthen	11.2	Manchester	11.2	Wrexham	11.2
Caswell	11.2	Nottingham	11.2	York	11.2
Ceolwyn	11.2	Oxford	11.2		
Chelmsford	11.2	Sheffield	11.2		
Chesham	11.2	Stirling	11.2		
Chichester	11.2	Swansea	11.2		
Chilmark	11.2	Torquay	11.2		
Chilmark	11.2	Wrexham	11.2		
Chilmark	11.2	York	11.2		
Chilmark	11.2				

## Rate rise proposed

Bexley Finance Committee last night recommended a rate for the borough's 77,000 householders of 74.5p a rise of 15p, or 25.2 per cent. The general rate is going up by 19.2 per cent to 93p.

## Lord Tenby in hospital

Lord Tenby, aged 54, was taken to Westminster Hospital with a fractured right leg after falling on a slippery surface in Bridge Street, Westminster. He was said to be quite comfortable.

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# ITT could do its research anywhere in the world. So why on earth choose Britain?

Like most major companies, ITT invests a lot of money in research.

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## HOME NEWS

## UDR man killed by gunmen in front of children

From Christopher Walker

A member of the Ulster Defence Regiment was killed and another was badly wounded in an ambush in Northern Ireland yesterday. A constable in the RUC was wounded in another attack.

These latest attacks on locally recruited members of the security forces underline criticism which the Police Federation will voice today with Mr Mason, Secretary of State, about the Government's continuing "ulsterization" of its security policy.

Mr Mason will travel to London later for a meeting with the Prime Minister and a delegation of United Ulster Unionist MPs at Westminster. They will seek to put pressure on the Government for tougher measures against the Provisional IRA.

The UDR man who was killed was Mr David McQuillan, aged 33. He was waiting for a lift to work at Bellaghy, co Londonderry. Two of his three children were standing close by waiting for their school bus.

Suddenly a hijacked car stopped in the narrow main street and two men with rifles jumped out. Mr McQuillan began to run but after a few yards he fell wounded to the ground. One of the terrorists then fired several rifle shots into his body at point-blank range.

The children, a boy and a girl, watched the whole incident from the other side of the road. According to one witness Mr McQuillan's son, aged 12, ran to try to help his father, but he was already dead.

Twenty miles away, at Coal-

island, another UDR man arrived at his work to find two masked Provisional IRA gunmen waiting for him. They had tied up four members of the staff and as he entered the room they fired a revolver and a shotgun filled with buckshot. The man was struck several times. He was seriously ill last night.

In the third incident shots were fired from a passing car at an RUC constable on duty outside the court house in Magherafelt. He was not seriously injured.

In Belfast the Provisional IRA said a section of the city's main hospital, the Royal Victoria, was now regarded as a legitimate target. It said it was being used for undercover army surveillance but the Army denied that.

The Rev Ian Paisley, MP for Antrim, North, last night threatened a Unionist boycott of Westminster and a withdrawal of the party's vital parliamentary support for the Government.

Speaking on Ulster television, he said: "I do not think my vote will ever again be going with the Government, and I will be seeking to persuade my colleagues not to give their votes any further to it. For this Government has completely betrayed the people of Northern Ireland."

Bishop's attack: The Church of Ireland Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, Dr James, said at the funeral in Castlederg, co Tyrone, of Constable William David Brown, aged 19, that there was a concerted attempt to undermine the RUC (the Press Association reports). Constable Brown was shot dead in an IRA ambush.

## Businessman's widow hits at IRA sympathizers

From Our Correspondent

York

Mrs Betty Nicholson, the widow of the latest businessman to be murdered in Belfast by the IRA, spoke bitterly yesterday of the trip from which her husband, James, failed to return.

"I had always been worried about him getting caught in the crossfire or a bombing over the three years he has been making regular trips out there. When I was told the news I was very upset. But this morning I am very bitter. I don't want his death wasted."

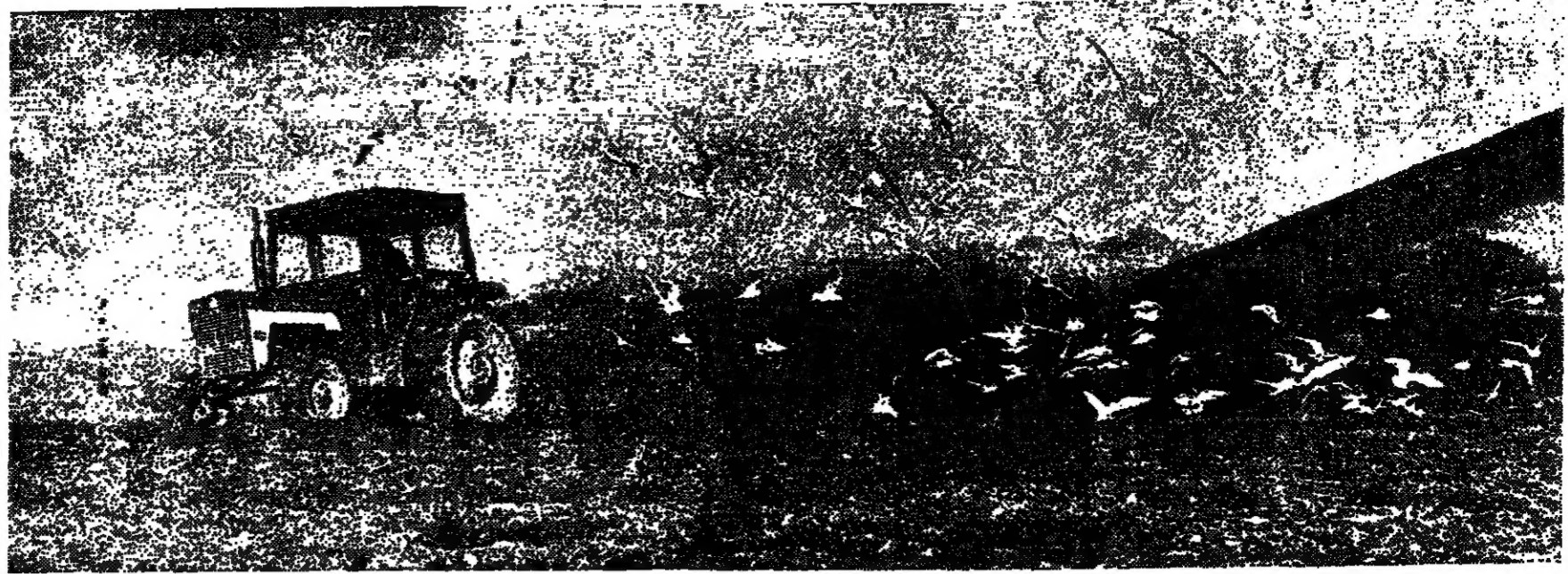
"I feel bitter because I have seen people on the extreme left of the Labour Party getting on the same platform as the IRA."

As a result of this I am now widowed with two young children to look after.

"I wish the four thugs who murdered my husband had been present when I told my children this morning," she said at her home at Ferenaby, Harrogate, North Yorkshire. "The IRA sympathizers are traitors and should be about us for it."

Mrs Nicholson, aged 32, whose children are nine and 11, believes the IRA got the wrong man when they shot her husband, who was a partner in a London public relations agency.

It was the first time he had travelled in a company car from Strathmore Audio, the company he had been dealing with. She said he usually took a taxi.



Gulls following the plough at Seaton Hall Farm, Cumbria, where hard ground after the drought delayed ploughing.

## Annual quota for night jet flights to end

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent

The Government is to replace its system of annual quotas for the number of night jet flights from Heathrow and Gatwick airports. London, with a long-term strategy, Mr Clinton Davis, Under-Secretary for Aviation, told the Commons yesterday.

That would give local people some assurance about the future and would provide the aviation industry with a basis for planning and shaping its operations, he said in a written reply.

A consultative document asking for views that would help the Government to reach a decision on the strategy to be adopted is being sent out to MPs, local authorities, amenity groups, the aviation industry and other interested bodies. They have until May to comment.

The document indicates that there would be two ways of achieving the Government's objective of progressively reducing night noise disturbance.

The first option was a progressive reduction in the number of permitted night flights, leading to complete closure of the airports at night, except for emergencies.

In the industry's view, based on 1975 prices, the likely annual net cost to British airlines would be at least £3.3m at Gatwick, and more at Heathrow. The impact on the air transport industry could be lessened by a transitional period of between five and 10 years.

The second option would involve the introduction and progressive tightening of a structure of restrictions linked to the noise levels of particular aircraft, favouring the quieter aircraft, and gradually phasing out the noisier ones.

That would provide operators with an incentive to phase out their noisier aircraft more quickly than they might otherwise have done, and would have the added bonus of reducing daytime disturbance as well.

Under that option, once the noisier aircraft were phased out, there would be "a dramatic shrinking" of the area exposed to noise levels above the threshold of awakening.

The Government is also seeking views on the hours of the night period, the possibility of relating airport charges at night to noise, and a system of runway alteration.

The consultative document says that since 1974 permitted summer night jet movements have been reduced by 35 per cent at Heathrow and 25 per cent at Gatwick. Quotas for the winter period to March 31 have been cut by 30 per cent at Gatwick and 15 per cent at Heathrow.

"The relationship between sleep disturbance and aircraft noise is complex, imperfectly understood, and varies from one individual to another," the document says. "The predominant factor in determining the probability of awakening seems to be the noise levels of individual aircraft, rather than their frequency."

## Sea shocks may boost lobster catch

From Martin Huckerby  
Edinburgh

An experimental method of catching Norway lobsters by giving them electric shocks is being developed by the Marine Laboratory at Aberdeen as part of a study of the commercial use of electricity for fishing.

The hint that the Government may be seeking to discourage less able pupils from staying on, a move that would arouse protests among socialists, came in a speech by Mr Oakes, Minister of State for Education and Science, in a speech to a conference of industrial training managers.

To make continued full-time education seem the norm might be encouraging "unrealistic career aspirations" in some cases, he said. Some of those in the sixth form or on academic degree courses might have been better off going straight to work at 16.

TUC officials are puzzled by the speech, which appears to run counter to the view hitherto taken by the Government that pupils should be encouraged to improve their qualifications.

They cannot believe that the Government is to abandon one of the fundamental assumptions of Labour's social philosophy, the continuing expansion of educational opportunity. They have pointed out that the relevant remarks were not included in the text of the speech issued by Mr Oakes's department.

Mr Roy Jackson, the TUC's education spokesman, said yesterday that the general council's view should be apparent from the fact that it was considering a new approach to Mrs Williams, the Secretary of State, to ask that the maintenance grants in question should be made mandatory. At present they are subject to a means test and the number has been falling steeply as wages have risen.

## Government hint on grants puzzles TUC

By Mark Jackson, of The Times  
Educational Supplement

The TUC is to increase its pressure for maintenance grants for all pupils who want to stay on beyond leaving age, despite a hint that the Government may have turned against the idea.

When we raised the subject with Mrs Williams's predecessor he did not question the desirability of encouraging more pupils to stay on, but only whether mandatory grants were the best way of achieving it," Mr Jackson added.

Mr Alan Evans, education officer of the National Union of Teachers, described Mr Oakes's remarks as a personal view. "There is no evidence that full-time education ever did anyone any harm, and in view of what is happening in other advanced Western countries it seems premature to talk of discouraging sixth-form expansion when only 34 per cent of the age group stay on beyond school-leaving age," he said.

The TUC is also soon to ask Mrs Williams, as Mr Oakes, Secretary of State for Employment, to announce their commitment to legislation to compel employers to give workers time off to attend education courses.

Mr Jackson said: "We believe that even if a date cannot be set the commitment will bring some moral pressure on employers whose refusal to co-operate is threatening such measures as the vocational preparation scheme."

Mr Roy Jackson, the TUC's education spokesman, said yesterday that the general council's view should be apparent from the fact that it was considering a new approach to Mrs Williams, the Secretary of State, to ask that the maintenance grants in question should be made mandatory. At present they are subject to a means test and the number has been falling steeply as wages have risen.

## Nearly 18 million vehicles using Britain's roads

By a Staff Reporter

There are nearly 18 million motor vehicles in use in Britain, according to figures for the third quarter of 1976, released by the Department of Transport yesterday.

The number of cars rose to 14,029,000, an increase of 2 per cent. There was a 5 per cent increase in motor cycles and three-wheelers, and an 8 per cent rise in agricultural vehicles.

The figures show that there are 15,576,000 vehicles in England and 1,140,000 in Scotland, and 878,000 in Wales.

There was a drop of 9,000 (2 per cent) in the number of motor cycles of under 50cc and an increase of 67,000 (11 per cent) in those over 50cc. The number of three-wheelers increased by 5,000. The number of general goods vehicles dropped by 25,000 (1 per cent).

Road casualty figures for January totalled 25,600, an increase of 6 per cent, compared with January a year ago.

## Man suspended after disclosing hospital hazards

A health official who disclosed the contents of a report that condemns conditions in many hospitals, kitchens has been suspended from duty.

Mr Richard North, aged 29, of Leeds, an expert on hospital hygiene, gave details of the report in radio and television interviews at the weekend.

He was acting on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humberside centre of the Environmental Health Officers' Association, which, against the wishes of its London headquarters, disclosed the report's contents "in the public interest".

The report, prepared by health officers throughout the country last August, says that the standard of hygiene is inadequate in more than a thousand hospitals and appalling in 153 cases.

A week today Mr North is to appear before the personnel subcommittee of Leeds council. His union, Nalfo, is supporting him.

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## Call for fusion of barristers and solicitors

By Our Legal Correspondent

A group of radical barristers have put forward a critical view of the existing structure of the legal profession and urged that a "disabled persons' officer" be appointed to improve their recruitment and career prospects in the health service.

Those steps by Mr Morris, Minister of State for the Disabled, reflect the Government's concern that the health service has a poor record in meeting the official quota for employing disabled people.

Mr Morris said yesterday: "It is vital that disabled people's rights to employment should be given high priority. I am now asking health authorities to recognize their responsibilities."

It is believed that registered disabled people form only 1 per cent of health service employees compared with the legal quota for employers with more than 15 staff of 3 per cent.

The Department of Health and Social Security has a slightly better record, but like most government departments it does not fulfil its quota. The latest figures show that last June the department was employing 2.1 per cent registered disabled, placing it eleventh out of 29 departments. Only the Royal Mint exceeded the quota.

## Call to employ more disabled people

By Fax Healy  
Social Services Correspondent

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## Bingo games fixed in ingenious plot, Crown says

By a Staff Reporter

Bingo games at a Hull club were fixed in an ingenious plot that earned the swindlers thousands of pounds, the prosecution said at York Crown Court yesterday. The architect of the fraud was said to be a director of the club.

The fraud was planned from the Phoenix Social Club, one of 19 in Hull that together formed the New Allied Bingo Club, the largest such group in Britain, Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, for the prosecution, said. Five nights a week each club was linked to that members could play the same game simultaneously.

Mr Rivlin said that between January, 1975, and last June, when police investigations began, at least 88 fixed games of bingo provided a share-out of more than £14,500 to the operators.

Twenty-three defendants between them admitted 32 charges involving theft, deception and handling stolen money.

The prosecution said the architect of the fraud was Anthony Brown, aged 37, of Beech Green, Kirk Ella, near Hull, a director of the Phoenix Social Club and treasurer of the New Allied Bingo Club.

In one of the frauds, counsel said, a prearranged winner was placed in one of the clubs and the chairman of the club was an accomplice passed on to the Phoenix control room. There the numbers were removed from a machine containing the 90 numbered balls. The genuine players were unaware of what was happening, even though a television camera was trained on the ball machine.

Sentences will be passed today.

## Jeweller did not ask for proof of identity

A jeweller's chief buyer did not ask a customer to whom he sold £27,500 of jewellery, for proof of identity because he wanted to give her the impression she was trusted.

Mr Alan Griffiths, of Asprey's Mayfair, told Knightsbridge Crown Court yesterday that after talking to a woman for about 25 minutes, he formed an impression that she was a genuine person.

"It's a highly competitive business we are in and people come to us because they trust us," he said. "Consequently we try to give the impression of trusting them. That's why I did not ask for a signature."

He added that one of Asprey's directors did not like asking customers for signatures and said: "It is really a question of confidence and sales."

Mrs Brenda Butler, aged 50, of Lowndes Street, Belgrave, is charged with dishonestly obtaining a sapphire-and-diamond ring and bracelet set by deception last August.

She is alleged to have bought the jewellery from Asprey's, the identity of Mrs Roy Miles, who had an account as Asprey's, the sale was debited to Mrs Miles's account. Later it is alleged, she tried to sell the jewellery to Collingwood's, of Conduit Street, Mayfair, a jeweller. The offer was £12,000.

The court was told that when detectives questioned her she said the jewellery had been delivered to her by an unknown person.

Another Asprey's assistant, Miss Jane Morris, said she had asked Mrs Miles to show her the woman buying the jewellery was not Mrs Miles she knew.

Mr Jeremy Hutchinson, for the defence, read a telegram said to have been sent to Mrs Butler, which said: "Your situation entirely due to us. It was a bet and alcoholic joke."

The case continues today.

## Harwell tries to allay Scots' fears of dumping

By a Staff Reporter

The head of Harwell's environment safety group denied last night that the Atomic Energy Authority is looking for nuclear dumping grounds "in Galloway or anywhere else".

Responding to local opposition to suggestions that Harwell waste might be buried in the area, Dr Francis Feates said at Newton Stewart that the purpose of the research was to determine whether granite, salt formations or clay would be the most stable surroundings for the waste. The AEA says research will take 10 to 15 years.

So far the AEA has been carrying out a public relations exercise, but applications in drill test bores several hundred feet deep will be made soon. Dr Feates said that the AEA was aware of the protests of Scram (the Scottish Campaign to Resist the Atomic Menace), the bores will be at Mullwharrior, a thinly populated area of Strathclyde.

Mrs Morag Williams, secretary of Scram, said yesterday that if the tests led to the burying of wastes there could be no guarantee that the granite would remain stable. The campaign's second concern was the very expense of making the bores would become a justification for using them.

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## HOME NEWS

## Dearer gas defended by Prime Minister

By John Groser

The Prime Minister told MPs yesterday that while they would have the chance to debate the Government's decision to allow a rise in gas prices, if they voted against the increase they would be destroying a part of the economic package as a whole. He was replying to Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, who had asked why the Government was prepared to allow a breach of the price code.

While Mr Callaghan was defending his Government's economic policy a delegation from the National Consumer Council was discussing the consultative document on prices policy with Mr Hargreaves, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Mr Michael Young, the council's chairman, told him that the Government's document looked like a charter for firms who want to put prices up and not for consumers who want them kept down.

Mr Young made five points: the decision to raise gas prices by 10 per cent should be reversed; electricity prices were too high and telephone charges should be cut or proposed postal increases refused; the Government should stand firm against food price increases sought by the EEC; the decision to cut food subsidies from £40m this year to £37m in 1978 should be slowed or reversed; more money should be spent on consumers' advice services.

Parliamentary report, page 14

## Man in the news: Mr David Marquand, Labour MP and painstaking biographer of Ramsay MacDonald

## 'Myths must not hinder rigorous rethinking'

By Peter Hennessy

Political parties, like any other human institution, need their share of myth. Mr David Marquand, historian, biographer and Labour MP for Ashfield, has just mounted a 900-page assault on one of the most cherished political myths of the twentieth century, one that for 46 years has helped to sustain the unity of the Labour Party.

His life of Ramsay MacDonald, the fruit of 10 years' scholarship and kindly received by most reviewers, tackles head on the time-honoured interpretation of the Labour movement which sees its first Prime Minister as the great betrayer who sold them out to the bankers and the Tories in a calculated attempt to destroy the party that had put him in Downing Street.

With painstaking detail and much new material from MacDonald's unpublished diary, Mr Marquand shows that, far from plotting the destruction of the 1929 Labour government in favour of a coalition, MacDonald struggled until the last moment during the economic crisis of August, 1931, to keep his Cabinet together while authorizing the cuts deemed necessary to keep sterling on gold.

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called an alternative strategy to check the flow of pounds from London.

Mr Marquand, an adviser to Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the EEC Commission, will shortly be resigning his safe mining seat in Nottinghamshire to work full time in Brussels. His father was Minister of Pensions in the Attlee government and he grew up in an atmosphere of Labour politics.

He is not leaving Westminster in any mood of apostasy, but Mr Marquand refuses to countenance that his book might have his party by making it more unstable than ever through its demolition of one of the props—"I shall never do a MacDonald" is the usual phrase—that keeps Labour Cabinets together during their periodic crises.

"I deeply and profoundly disagree with the view that you must have myths," he says. "In a curious way, history is more important to me than politics."

But he is too subtle a thinker to see the lessons of 1931 simply in terms of the arguments for and against coalition that have been regularly rehearsed since the July measures of 1966. The moral for Mr Marquand is that radical parties must not allow myths to get in the way of rigorous rethinking. The tragedy of the standard interpretation of MacDonald's role in 1931 was that it prevented Labour from facing the inadequacy of its policies at the 1929 election.

The historian, he says, cannot not be a kind of "celestial chief justice" putting posthumous reputations to rights, he must be a psychoanalyst as well, making people or political parties stare past traumas in the face instead of fleeing from them into fantasy.



Mr Marquand: "History more important than politics."

He believed in public ownership and would have been "rather shocked" by last week's pamphlet published by the Manifesto Group. But he did blur and fudge issues that should have been clarified to keep together Labour's warring factions, "from disaffected Liberals to class-war Marxists," a wholly unsatisfactory business, in Mr Marquand's eyes, that is still going on.

He says that since MacDonald's day Sir Karl Popper has shown social democrats the way forward. Instead of the historicist belief that history is moving inexorably towards some utopian goal, "on and on, and up and up," as MacDonald used to put it in his celebrated gobbledygook, socialists should realize that trying to head the facts to fit history leads to failure or worse still, to totalitarianism. Instead, ending values, like a belief in liberty and equality, should be applied to changing circumstances.

In his concluding paragraph Mr Marquand does not shrink from drawing an appropriate moral from the sad spectacle of MacDonald's career: "It is that a radical party requires not merely high ideals and skillful leadership, but intellectual coherence and a willingness to jettison cherished assumptions in the face of changing realities. It is a very easy moral to formulate. Half a century of British history bears witness to the fact that it is not so easy to practise."

Ramsay MacDonald, by David Marquand, Cape £12.50.

## Girls granted arbitration pay rises of up to 133 pc

Five girl clerks in a Midlands furniture company were awarded pay rises of between 74 per cent and 133 per cent yesterday.

The awards by the Central Arbitration Committee were said to be the largest ever awarded in arbitration.

Mr Donald Groves, divisional officer of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said that talks on the claims, which had been made under a 1946 fair-wages resolution, began in January, 1976.

The five girls, all under 21, have been earning between £15 and £23 a week. Their salaries will now be between £26 and £40 a week. They are to try to obtain back pay of between £510 and £625.

Mr Groves said: "We were able to use the 1946 resolution because the company was engaged in making furniture for education authorities, so the wages become comparable with local authority wages."

## Helicopter pilot in command of ship

A Royal Navy helicopter pilot who had not officially navigated a ship for 10 years was given command of a university training vessel, it was stated at a court martial at Rosyth, Fife, yesterday.

Lieutenant Commander Anthony Grattan-Cooper, aged 33, was reprimanded at the court martial at the shore establishment, HMS Cochrane, after he admitted boarding HMS Droxford, a 120ft seaward defence vessel.

The Droxford, attached to the Glasgow and Strathclyde universities' naval training unit, hit a rock in a loch on the West Coast of Scotland on November 13 last.

Lieutenant Commander Michael Ellis, for Commander Grattan-Cooper, said the commanding officers of university unit ships at Glasgow, Aberdeen, Southampton and Liverpool, although regular naval officers, did not receive a commanding officer-designate course before taking command.

"In the future, it is my understanding, perhaps as a result to some extent of these proceedings, that commanding officers of such a unit will be given a CO-designate course."

"Lieutenant - Commander Grattan-Cooper is a helicopter pilot. In fairness, he has spent periods at sea in a seamanship capacity, watch-keeping officer, although it is some ten years since he was actually at sea in a seamanship billet."

The court was told that Commander Grattan-Cooper, the only qualified navigating officer on board, approved a navigation plan prepared by Reserve Midshipman Michael Cassidy, a dental student at Glasgow University, for passage up Loch Sunart. Two bearings were unusable because they were plotted on rocks which were submerged at all states of the tide.

Commander Ellis said Commander Grattan-Cooper was aware that the navigation plan was not in all respects correct. "He accepted it as a basis for the passage up the loch. He felt that through the deficiencies of the plan Mr Cassidy would learn from the errors which resulted."

The court accepted two pleas of not guilty from Commander Grattan-Cooper on charges of negligently performing his duty.

## Rapid progress with comprehensives

There is no ideal size for comprehensive schools and no national policy that lays down hard and fast rules about size, a report issued yesterday by the Department of Education and Science says.

In the early years of reorganization comprehensives tended to be large; now the average size is about 950 pupils.

The report appears to back the old theory that large comprehensives are necessary to provide viable academic sixth forms.

The report, tracing the revolution that has swept school reorganization since 1965, says progress by local education authorities towards a fully com-

prehensive system has been rapid.

Latest figures show that of the 105 authorities now in existence in England and Wales only one has no comprehensive schools within its area; 27 authorities are fully reorganized; 19 are full reorganized, apart from voluntary schools, and 58 are partly reorganized.

## British Rail is opposed to extension of the M3

By Peter Godfrey

British Rail has tacitly opposed the extension of the M3 motorway, urging the expansion of rail services as an alternative to the planned road link.

Giving evidence to the Department of the Environment's public inquiry into the motorway at Winchester yesterday Mr John Ellis, passenger services manager for British Rail's Southern Region, said trains were already used by half the travellers between London and the South Coast and that 92 freight services operated daily between the two points and beyond. "The railway has the capability to carry the order of 50 per cent more passenger traffic and 30 per cent more freight traffic with minimal additional cost," he said.

Mr Ellis said the present

average of five trains per hour in each direction along the route could conceivably be increased to 15 without significant additional investment. Optimum use of the rail capacity would fit in with British Rail's plans to introduce 125 Inter-City trains between Southampton and the north, and to build three new freight terminals.

While Mr Ellis's evidence fell short of a formal objection to the motorway scheme, British Rail conceded that the implication of his remarks was that the M3 extension might prove redundant.

The public inquiry, which has aroused strong local feeling in Hampshire, culminating in the disruption of proceedings last summer, is examining plans to build a 12½ mile extension to the M3 around Winchester in preference to upgrading the by-pass.

## Wider choice in buying spectacles

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Opticians will in future stock and display the full range of National Health Service spectacles frames, under measures announced yesterday by Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

He said the ophthalmic organizations had also agreed that the prices should be shown where frames are displayed.

The Government has decided to implement many of the recommendations in the Price Commission's report last September on the supply of private spectacles.

Opticians will not try to persuade customers to buy expensive frames without seeing the full range of health service frames.

Accounts will show the total amount to be paid, subdivided by the statutory health service charge for lenses and the charge for the appliance. If patients require further information about costs it will be given.

## Mentmore new offer 'difficult'

The National Trust's offer to take over Mentmore Towers if an endowment for repairs and maintenance made available was welcomed by Lord Rosebery, the owner, with reservations, yesterday.

"We are looking into this proposal closely," he said, "but I do not hold out a lot of hope that we will be able to postpone the sale because the costs of so doing are absolutely enormous."

If the present offer to the Government was taken up by the trust after May 30, when the three-year limit from the if would cost him £400,000. But if the National Trust's new proposal was taken up after that date it would probably cost him another £400,000, making a total of £800,000, which he could not afford.

## Janie Jones tells court of her hunger strike

Janie Jones, the singer, has been on a hunger strike as part of a campaign against changing prisons, it was disclosed yesterday. Miss Jones, who was appearing at Bow Street Magistrates' Court to explain why she has not paid £16,000 legal costs, said she went on the strike to protest against being transferred from Holloway Prison, London, to Styal semi-open prison in Cheshire.

"I went on hunger strike from January 24 until February 19," she said. "This was until I saw Lord Longford". Miss Jones, who was jailed for controlling prostitutes, said she had been threatened by another inmate.

She complained that she was unable to handle her business affairs while in the Cheshire prison.

Mr Miles Laddie, Miss Jones's solicitor, said no progress had been made in the matter of obtaining the money. Miss Jones had twice been refused parole and they were still awaiting the result of the third application.

The hearing continues on June 14.

## Soldiers jailed for rape

Six soldiers from Caterick camp, North Yorkshire, were jailed at Teesside Crown Court yesterday for the rape of a village girl aged 17 and described as immature.

Five of the men, all drivers from 60 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, were jailed for five years. The sixth was jailed for three years for aiding and abetting the offence. All had pleaded guilty.

## Man of 53 had intercourse with over-poem girl

A girl of 14 wrote love letters to a man aged 53 to succumb and had sexual intercourse with her, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Frederick Sidney Crouch, aged 53, an electrician, of 14 Chapel Road, Crockenhill, Orpington, London, pleaded guilty and bound over to £500 bail to come up for judgment on April 5.

Referring to a recent Court of Appeal decision, Judge Gibbs, QC, said that where the law promoted the offence a less serious view could be taken. But he added that Mr Crouch "must assume that he is not going to prison for a substantial time."

Earlier, Mr Crouch was found guilty of indecent assault on a girl under 16.

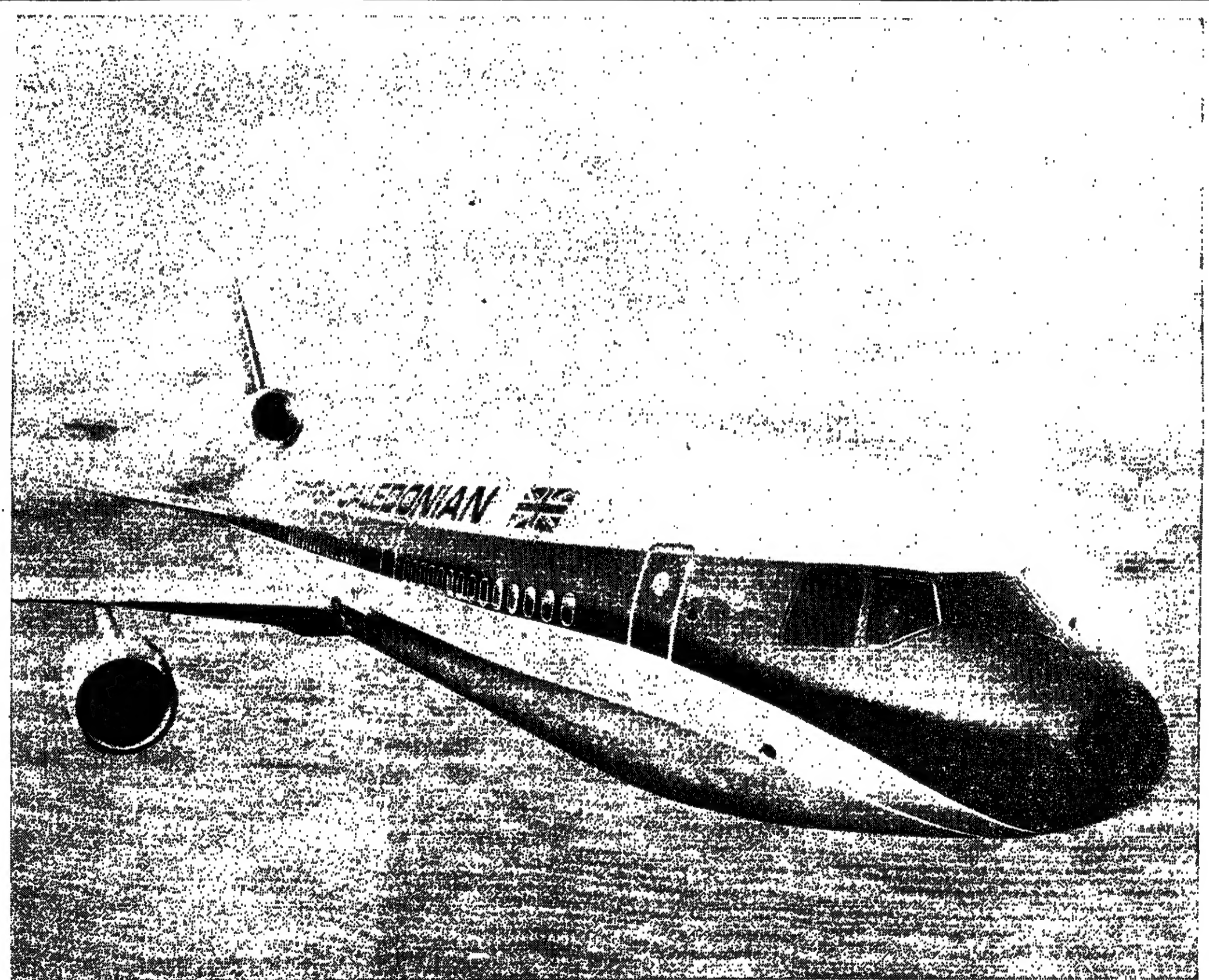
## Extra security at roadmoor

A special unit is to be set up at Roadmoor Hospital, Crowthorne, Berkshire, after protests about security.

It will house the 15 most dangerous inmates at the psychiatric hospital.

## R speed limits

Speed restrictions have been produced by British Rail in the Eastern Region on some tracks at have not been replaced as speed, because of a shortage of money.



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## HOME NEWS

## Freightliners may go back to rail board

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter

The Government is expected to transfer Freightliners, the state-run cargo-carrying operation, back to the control of British Rail. The move has been suggested by the National Union of Railwaymen but resisted by the National Freight Corporation, which now controls Freightliners.

The proposal is in draft form for inclusion in the white Paper on transport, due to be published in May. It will clearly please the British Railways Board, which built up the system from 1960 with the intention of moving trunk container cargo at high speed by rail. The cargo is transferred to the railhead.

On January 1, 1969, the operation was given to the freight corporation. British Rail retained 49 per cent of the ownership, but has had no control over the system.

The unions say Freightliners has been using its lorries to move long-distance cargo instead of sticking to the original intention of using road transport as complementary support for the railway cargo system.

Freightliners has 24 main terminals and is regarded as a company that is growing quickly. Since 1965 its business has grown from handling 500 containers a year to about 750,000. The trading profit last year was £1.3m.

Mr Daniel Pettit, chairman of the freight corporation, said that when Freightliners was taken from British Rail it was carrying fewer than 300,000 containers and losing £3.5m a year at 1968 values. "By retaining the management and control of Freightliners within the NFC the relative advantages of road and rail can be assessed professionally, and emotional confrontations between road and rail avoided", he said.

But Mr Sidney Weighell, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said: "The vision of Freightliners as the key to road-rail integration has failed, and Freightliners remains a predominantly rail-based activity in a road-oriented N.F.C. Several lines of dock railway in Hull and Grimsby struck for 24 hours yesterday as talks opened on a British Rail plan to withdraw rail freight facilities from both ports. North Sea Ferries' overnight service to Rotterdam and Zeebrugge were halted. Union leaders said after the talks that they were more hopeful that the facilities might be saved.

## Labour urged to rally to Government's aid

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, chose a luncheon with the Parliamentary Press Gallery yesterday to exhort the Labour Party to stand by the Government. "Now is the time for the party to come to the aid of the Government," he declared.

It sounded remarkably like a speech for the run-up to a general election until, towards the end, he declared: "The general election now would imperil national recovery and solve nothing." He did not believe that the Government was running out of steam or flagging, and when he looked at the opposition front bench he saw little sign of a dynamic alternative government, as many in the audience.

"There is a need to let people know the true magnitude of the problems we have faced, the solid achievements to this government's credit and the prospects, if we keep our nerve, that we can reverse a generation of national decline", Mr Hayward said.

"Too many people hide behind their alternative strategies and the supposed pristine purity of their socialism to avoid doing the much more necessary task of fighting for and preserving a Labour government in office."

"Let us have an end to those prophets of doom in the party who choose to ignore the four fifths of our manifesto commitments already secured out by the Government in order to go around grumbling that the Labour Government have not

done this and moaning that we should have done that or have forgotten this pledge."

In deciding on an economic policy giving absolute priority to industrial regeneration the Government had taken decisions that some did not like, Mr Hayward said.

"But the time for arguments is over. In the next year I want everyone in the party to put his full weight behind the industrial strategy so that we can embark on nothing less than a new industrial revolution, a revolution based on a joint effort by Government, management and unions, such as Britain has never achieved before."

If Britain could once again become a leading industrial country paying her way in the world, with a stable currency no longer a target for quick profits by speculators, many of the agonies about priorities that racked the party would no longer exist because Britain would be producing enough resources to make such choices unnecessary.

"The party's job in the next 12 months is to close ranks around a government that is going to complete its full term. If we do not we shall be offering power to the most reactionary Tory leadership in my lifetime and perhaps offering opportunities to the nationalists that would imperil the very future of the United Kingdom."

The whole party and the whole country wanted to "give Jim a go". The Government must see its programme through by a further two years in office.

## Plans to move body of rabies suspect rejected

The parents of Ayub Khan, aged 11, who died in Bradford on Sunday from suspected rabies, have been refused permission to fly the body to Pakistan because of the risk of infection.

Another proposal by Mr and Mrs Shabaz Khan, of New Street, Little Horton, Bradford, to hold a funeral at a local mosque has also been rejected for the same reason.

The boy, who was bitten by a dog while visiting Pakistan, will be buried after a short service at the city's mortuary. Only close relatives who have been vaccinated will be allowed to attend the service.

Tests on relevant specimens, removed by Dr Anthony Wells, consultant in charge of infectious diseases at Bradford Royal Infirmary, were being made yesterday in Leeds. The results may be known in four or five days.

## Police criticize mock bank raid by pupils

A police chief yesterday criticized a school for letting pupils take part in a mock bank raid. On Monday morning six children wearing stockings over their heads and waving pistols ran into the Truro Savings Bank branch in Market Place, Great Yarmouth.

Chief Supt Ronald Spalding said: "I am against the principle of simulating what is a very serious crime. It might have been distressing to the public, particularly old people."

The pupils, from Greenacre Junior School, wanted to report on and photograph a robbery for their own newspaper.

Mr Stuart Lee, the headmaster, said: "The police were informed beforehand, we chose a quiet time of day, and with the children being so young we did not think there could be any possibility of misunderstanding."

## In brief

## Eton boy hurt in cadet exercise

Bruce Evers, aged 16, a pupil at Eton College, was injured by pellets or stones fired from a rifle while he was taking part in an exercise with the school's cadet force at Hankley Common, near Farnham, Surrey.

An Army spokesman said yesterday that a board of inquiry had been set up into the shooting. "The injured boy has a lacerated bottom and he will be in hospital for some time", he said.

## Racecourse air crash

A single-engine aircraft carrying two racegoers crashed landed on Cheltenham racecourse yesterday. The pilot and his passenger were shaken by the accident but returned to the races later.

## Widow sells trophies

Motor-racing souvenirs owned by Mrs Graham Hill's widow were auctioned in London yesterday. The collection, including three grand prix trophies and paintings of Hill, fetched nearly £1,500.

## Lord Brayley ill

Lord Brayley, aged 60, a former Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Defence (Army), who is awaiting trial on charges of conspiracy to defraud, has been admitted to a Cardiff hospital.

## Ex-chairman to appeal

George Newman, aged 71, former chairman of Staffordshire County Council, who was convicted and jailed last month for corruption, is to appeal against conviction.

## Railcard extension

The senior citizens' Railcards will become available from April 1 for a full year regardless of the date of purchase. They will remain at £6 and £3 for Awayday tickets only.

## 'No typhoid hazard'

Barnet Area Health Authority said yesterday that there was no hazard to the community at large after the death of a hospital porter from typhoid in West Hendon on Friday.

## £25,000 raid

Armed raiders escaped with £25,000 from a Security Express armoured van at a shopping centre in Northampton yesterday.

## Son killed by lorry

Michael Grieve, aged 4, of Provost Lane, Leslie, Fife, was killed yesterday by a reversing lorry driven by his father.

## WEST EUROPE



Isabella Zavoli, estranged wife of the Iberia jet hijacker, arrives yesterday at Turin airport where she refused to hand over her daughter.

## Faroes back down on fishing curbs

From David Cross  
Brussels, March 15

After strong protests from the European Community, the Faroe Islands today postponed restrictions on fishing by British, French and West German trawlers in their new 200-mile zone.

The decision was announced by Mr Adli Dam, Prime Minister of the Faroes, who was in Brussels to sign a long-term fisheries agreement with the Community. He promised that full consultations on the proposed measures, which were due to take effect today, would begin as soon as the agreement was signed.

Welcoming the deferment, Mr John Silkin, the British Minister of Agriculture and acting president of the EEC Council of Ministers, told journalists that what had looked like an "absolute ultimatum" had been averted. Earlier during the signing ceremony he had expressed "the deep concern that the Community feels

about the way in which this matter has been handled".

The proposed Faroe measures, which would limit EEC catches of cod and haddock in Faroe waters to a mere 1,000 tons over a six-week period, were communicated to the Community only last week. This had not given the Community sufficient time to study them.

The Community's plique was heightened by the knowledge that today's agreement, which lays down a framework for negotiating annual fish catches in each other's waters, specifically provides for consultations on such delicate decisions.

It is not clear how long the deferment will last. But Mr Silkin told reporters that he expected a further round of consultations in due course, which should give a reasonable breathing space.

Clearly EEC representatives will try to persuade the Faroes to be more generous in their allocation of catches to Community fishermen.

## Bonn shows signs of disagreement with Carter tactics

From Dan van der Vat  
Bonn, March 15

The stream of West German politicians on their way to or from the United States these days makes the VIP lounge at the Cologne/Bonn airport look like a branch office of the Bundesrat.

As Herr Genscher, the Foreign Minister, was taking his leave from President Carter at the White House last night, Herr Leber, his colleague for defence, arrived in Washington for a series of talks which began today.

While Herr Leber was still airborne, Herr Willy Brandt, the chairman of the ruling Social Democrats and former Chancellor, was telling the press about his week of talks in the United States that has just ended.

A notable absentee from the list of transatlantic commuters is Herr Schmidt, the Chancellor. A Chancellor spokesman said today that it had been agreed in principle that Herr Schmidt would visit Mr Carter this year but no date or even season had been settled.

In political, strategic and economic terms, the relationship between the United States and the Federal German Republic is the most important bilateral alliance in the west and the cornerstone of Nato.

Herr Schmidt attaches great (some say too great) importance to his personal working relationship with the leaders of his country's main allies.

It was therefore to be expected that he would have been one of the first callers at Mr Carter's door. That he has not been is one of many clear signs of the deterioration in relations which began as soon as the President took office.

The procession of German politicians and officials across the Atlantic is another. There are many more.

As things stand, the two men will meet for the first time at the Western economic summit in London in May, a multi-lateral occasion with little room for bilateral matters.

Four issues have arisen to ensure that relations between the Schmidt Government and the Carter Administration started on the wrong foot.

First, in order of importance, is the rejection by Herr Schmidt of Mr Carter's wish that West Germany should renege, with America and Japan, to help the world out of the recession.

When Vice-President Mondale came here in January, the Chancellor told him that Bonn was not prepared to go beyond its limited programme of investment in the economic

infrastructure, involving an expenditure of about £3,000m over the next four years.

The second issue is the West German plan to sell Brazil eight nuclear power plants. The Americans are totally opposed to this because, as a spin-off from the fuel recycling process involved, the Brazilians would get plutonium, the raw material for atomic bombs.

Bonn says that it has signed a treaty and will not break its word. Brazil refuses to consider a change in the treaty or a supplementary pact to increase safeguards against proliferation of nuclear arms.

Next on the list of grievances comes the future of the main battle tanks to be supplied to the American and West German armies for the 1980s. Under the Administration of President Ford (with whom Herr Schmidt got on very well, describing him as "a decent conservative"), Bonn and Washington agreed to standardize the principal components of their respective tanks.

The Germans now believe, with some evidence, that the Americans are undermining this arrangement. They accuse American sources of leaking distorted reports about the results of comparative trials of the two tanks.

This has led to an incoherent school playground dialogue, with each side saying: "My tank is better than yours."

First reports asserted that the American XM-1 tank had proved itself superior to almost all respects to the German Leopard II. Counterblast from Bonn claimed that the Leopard had proved itself superior in manoeuvrability, reliability and gunnery. Herr Leber will be shown the official version of the party leaked report this week.

That leaves AWACS, the American airborne reconnaissance system which Washington wants its European Nato allies to help to finance (with the Germans paying more than anybody else). This untied project has had a lukewarm reception here because of the enormous and probably underestimated cost. Bonn feels it is being asked to pay a pig in a poke.

An early resolution of any of these four problems is not to be discerned.

The real danger is that some of these issues may become interlinked, so that if America says: "No atoms for Brazil", or "No tank deal", the Germans will reply: "No AWACS", or "No refuelling"

## Appointments Vacant also on pages 22 and 30

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

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WEST EUROPE

# Rivals for Mayor of Paris join forces to halt left's advance

from Charles Hargrove  
Paris, March 15

A cartoon can often sum up a political situation better than a page of clever commentaries. Today's cartoon in *Le Figaro* puts in a nutshell the situation after the first ballot in the municipal elections. It shows Jacques Chirac and M. Michel d'Ornano, busy with tubes of glue piecing together the bits of broken china of the government majority.

The tactical reconciliation of the rival champions of the majority in Paris took place today on the neutral ground of the National Assembly, at the suggestion of M. Chirac, the Gaullist leader. After an hour of discussion they issued a joint statement calling on Parisians who want to defend a free society to give massive support to the list of the majority which remains alone next Sunday against the upholders of the common programme (of the left), and this even in those districts where there is no left-wing threat. M. Chirac is thus, barring an unexpected victory of the left, assured of becoming Mayor of Paris.

But M. Chirac turned down as premature a suggestion by M. d'Ornano, the Independent Republican Minister of Industry, that they should divide the

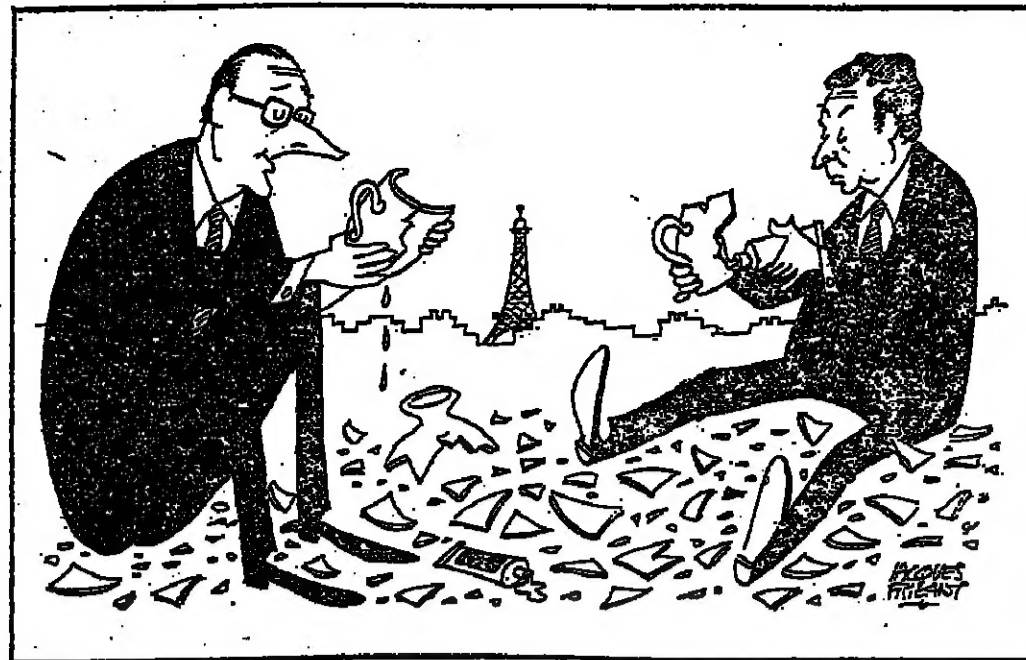
spoils here and now; and that the post of mayor and other positions of responsibility in the new city council should be distributed in relation to the strength of each faction of the majority.

He also refused to become involved, as M. d'Ornano insisted, in the unseemly controversy which broke out in the last days of the campaign over the question of whether Mme. Françoise Giroud, the Minister of Culture, is entitled to the Medal of the Résistance. A group of Gaullist horseheads had claimed that she had no right to assert this in her election literature. She has started an action for libel against them.

There is reason to believe that before committing himself to a division of the spoils, M. Chirac wants to see how next Sunday's voting will go. He may also endeavour to obtain from the Gaullists some guarantees on the Government's policy over such issues as direct elections to the European Parliament.

The upshot of today's electoral pact is that the supporters of M. d'Ornano will withdraw in 11 districts where they came second on Sunday to those of M. Chirac. Mme. Giroud, who had unsuccessfully challenged the long-standing Gaullist office holder in the 15th arrondissement on Sunday, already announced yesterday that she would step down.

The corollary is that M. Chirac, as he said last night,



M. d'Ornano and M. Chirac repair the broken china of the government majority, as seen by *Le Figaro*.

will personally support M. d'Ornano in the left-wing stronghold of the 18th arrondissement where he obtained a very creditable score and has a chance of being elected a councillor. The Gaullists will withdraw in three districts where M. d'Ornano's list led the government majority. Paradoxically, they are in the popular eastern part of Paris, and it is important for M. Chirac's future image as mayor, that he should not appear to be the victor in the prosperous western districts alone.

The left is also closing ranks for the second ballot, though it has no divisions in Paris to overcome. It must fight hard during the few remaining days to preserve those five districts which it holds, let alone to

wrest one or two others from the majority. A great joint meeting is being held on Friday night by the Communists, Socialists, and Left-wing Radicals to galvanize their troops.

A battle of statistics between the two sides after elections to prove that if not everyone won last Sunday, at least no one has really lost, is true to French electoral tradition.

M. Henri Fabin, the Communist candidate for Mayor of Paris, maintained that the left continued its progression throughout the country. In Paris, it had improved its position by 3.5 per cent and led in 10 out of 18 districts; while the right had lost 10 per cent in relation to the previous municipal elections of 1971, and its score "was never so low".

True to form also, the Ministry of the Interior has produced a somewhat astonishing set of figures which completely contradict these claims. According to those, the left obtained 35 per cent of the votes last Sunday, while the government majority, scored 50.2 per cent, the ecologists and "Jobertists" accounted for 12.4 per cent, and the extreme right for 2.4 per cent. Turnout was exceptionally high with 78.3 per cent.

Even the independent right-wing newspaper *L'Aurore*, hardly expected to exaggerate left-wing gains, wrote today that "if one believes those percentages, one would have to admit that the majority had surrendered 33 mairies to the Opposition out of courtesy, and will similarly lose 10 more next Sunday".

## Evidence of arson as four die at night club

Stockholm, March 15.—Three young men and a woman died early today in a fire at one of Stockholm's most popular night clubs. The police said all the evidence so far suggested arson.

The blaze started at the roulette table and there were several explosions as it spread to the two-storey restaurant where some 200 people were dining just after midnight. All but four of the guests and staff were evacuated through emergency exits.

An employee said he had just extinguished a minor fire in the lavatory where someone had set alight paper towels in a waste basket when the main fire started.

Three guests received burns and were taken to hospital. One youth was badly shocked and the police had to prevent him by force from returning into the flame-engulfed restaurant.

The night club, Monte Carlo, was all but totally destroyed. Its proprietor, Mr. Bo Aakesson, said: "I know that certain people would like to see that Monte Carlo didn't take in such a profit. But that some competitor deliberately set fire to a packed restaurant—no, I just can't believe it."

Monte Carlo was particularly well-frequented because it was one of the very few night clubs in that part of Stockholm that remained open until 3 am. —AP.

OVERSEAS

## Soviet Jews fear spy trials 'Dreyfus-style' and fresh persecution

By Peter Reddaway

Soviet Jewry feels itself more threatened with persecution than at any time since Stalin ordered mass arrests and shootings of Jews in the last years of his rule.

This feeling is vented in a growing number of appeals now reaching the west, and in a letter sent last week to President Carter.

The signal which has most alarmed Jewish leaders has been the accusation of espionage on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency levelled against activists and American diplomats by the Government newspaper *Izvestia*. They fear that the publication of these allegations on March 5, the twenty-fourth anniversary of Stalin's death, was not coincidental and constituted a clear hint of what may be to come.

The latest two appeals to reach London are dated March 13. One is signed by three of the activists accused by *Izvestia*, the other by 250 Jews from many cities.

The appeal of the 250, having recalled the awful nightmare of the "Doctors' plot" case in 1952-53, says that "now, in our times, there has burst upon us the preparations for a new trial, a trial of Jewish spies", recalling "the notorious trial of the so-called 'spy and traitor' Dreyfus".

"During the last few months", the document continues, "we have seen an escalation in the growing stream of harassments of Jews: beatings-up in the woods

outside Moscow, mass arrests for 15-day periods, the suppression of the planned symposium on Jewish culture, the renewal of the threat to try the editors of the magazine *Jews in the USSR*, intimidation in all the provincial towns where Jews live, the sentence of three years against Amnori Zayurov in Uzbekistan, the arrest of Dr. Beegun in Moscow, the opening of a case against Dr. Salansky in Vilnius, and now the monstrous accusations in the columns of *Izvestia*.

"On the surface, only a small part of the erupting volcano can yet be seen."

The other appeal is signed by Dr. Alexander Lerner, Mr. Vladimir Slepak and Mr. Anatoly Shcharansky, activists denied emigration permits over several years. Mr. Slepak and Mr. Shcharansky have been under heavy pressure for some time as they belong to Dr. Yuri Orlov's group monitoring Soviet observance of the Helsinki agreements.

They write: "The recent dramatic events in Moscow, and in the Soviet Union generally, testify to the readiness of the Soviet authorities to go to almost any lengths in order to suppress the growing national renaissance of the Jews of Russia..."

"The situation is such that we feel exactly like hostages in the hands of terrorists who acknowledge no laws, national or international, and who are ready to take extreme measures at any moment", they conclude.

## Tenerife rioters burn offices and cars

From William Chislett  
Madrid, March 15

Fierce confrontations between demonstrators and riot police continued until shortly before dawn today in La Laguna, Tenerife, leaving cars and offices burnt out, shop windows broken and dozens of people injured.

The immediate cause of the rioting was not clear. According to some reports, it started after police entered the church of Santo Domingo to dislodge 25 striking workers who had been staging a sit-in since last Sunday. Other reports said that 15 workers had entered the church and held two priests hostage. Police arrived after the bishop telephoned them and the workers escaped over the roof.

Whatever began the fracas, events quickly got out of hand and a crowd of several hundred people, many of them students, gathered around the church and marched on the headquarters of the state-run trade union organization and set it on fire. Firemen arrived in time to save the building from serious damage, but the offices of a government training centre were smashed and furniture was taken out into the street and burnt.

Demonstrators took petrol out of parked cars to make fire-bombs, which were thrown along with stones and other objects at the police. The clothing of one policeman was set on fire and colleagues had to

extinguish the flames. Police retaliated with smoke and tear gas and fired rubber bullets. At least 18 police were injured and an unknown number of demonstrators.

Roads into La Laguna were sealed off by police; and frightened residents retired indoors, leaving police and demonstrators to fight it out.

Before the rioting began an explosive was found in a travel agency and a fire bomb was thrown from a moving car into a restaurant. A client picked it up and threw it into the street, where it exploded.

News of the violence reached Madrid while the Cabinet was meeting to discuss the long-awaited electoral law. The mainstream socialist party is now considering a boycott of elections if certain conditions are not met. Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the secretary-general of the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party (PSOE), wound up the party congress in the Basque country last night with an attack on the Government for deliberately creating confusion in the minds of electors.

Señor Blas Pinar, the leader of the extreme right-wing organization, Fuerza Nueva, was summoned to security police headquarters today in connexion with investigations into two cases of killing—four lawyers and a clerk in one case and a student in another. Señor Pina is a member of the Cortes directly appointed by Franco.

## Manufacturers indignant at EEC definition of cream

By Hugh Clayton

Food manufacturers fear that sweeping EEC plans to outlaw words like milk and cream on labels of groceries that do not contain them may slip into law during heated negotiations about farm prices.

Many British companies consider a draft regulation from the EEC Commission about milk products one of the most sinister and uncompromising documents issued from Brussels since this country entered the Community.

Cream is defined by the commission as "the product obtained from milk or whey in the form of a fatty type of emulsion in water and having higher fat content than milk". That is narrower than definitions accepted in every English usage in English food law and, not least, in the Oxford English Dictionary.

The dictionary calls cream, among other things, "a fancy rich or sweet made with cream or to resemble cream; a cream-like preparation used cosmetically".

The Commission said its intent to ensure that what is sold cream should be cream and not cream-like was "in line with overall Community

policy on correct labelling in order to protect the consumer and widen consumer choice". British companies claim that the draft regulation is an effort to reduce the milk products "mountain", disguised as a consumer protection measure. They find its appearance in the centre of the farm price proposals for next year especially alarming.

That is because once a regulation is adopted by Community ministers it automatically becomes law in each member state. That would mean changes in either the labelling or the composition of many British groceries. Ice cream could no longer be so called since it is made mainly of palm and palm kernel oil, usually with no dairy fat. It makes of tinned cream of tomato soup wanted the description to remain legal they would have to create a new recipe which would add to the cost.

Mr. John Newman, an assistant director of the Food Manufacturers' Federation, said yesterday: "The main thing is to get this out of the farm price package. It has no business to be there." The federation and other trade groups will see Mr. Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, about it.

## Mgr Lefebvre counts on new Pope's support

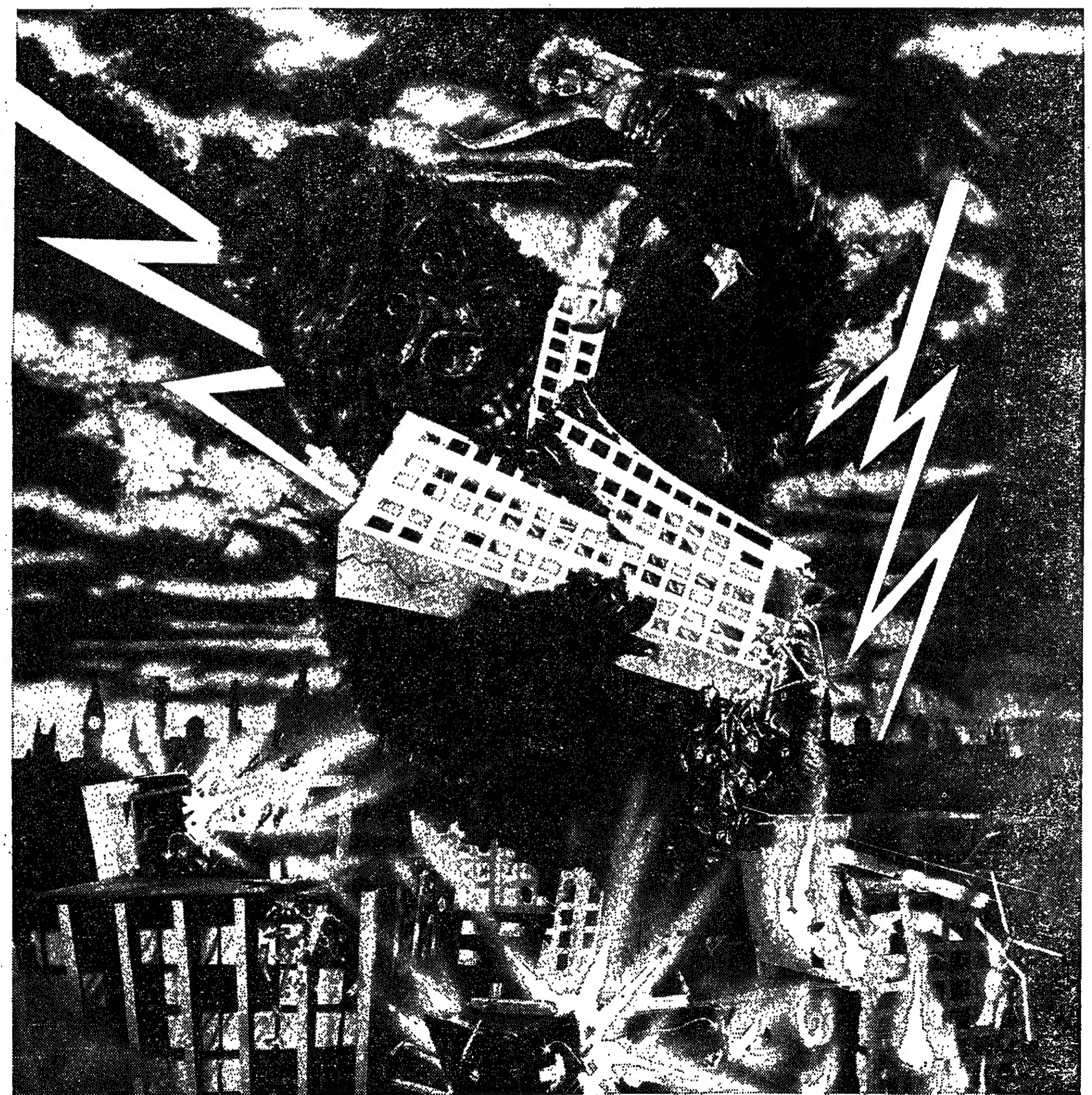
from Our Own Correspondent  
Paris, March 15

Mgr Marcel Lefebvre, the defiant leader of the rebel traditionalists in the Roman Catholic Church, said today that new Pope would judge in favour of his movement. Earlier one of his leading supporters had rejected a compromise offer from the Archbishop of Paris, Cardinal Marty.

"There is a malaise in the church in the entire world," Mgr Lefebvre said. "A new Pope would change many things in the Church". Discussing the occupation by traditionalists of the church St Nicolas du Chardonnet on the Left Bank in Paris, he said Catholics had a right to be over "churches that are empty."

With the traditionalists on his very doorstep since the occupation of St. Nicolas, Cardinal Marty has proposed a compromise solution of a Latin Mass said according to the rite of Paul VI. This he hoped would satisfy a good number of Catholics whose sympathies for the traditionalists were based on the use of Latin in saying Mass.

The reaction from the traditionalists was anything but encouraging. Mgr. Ducaud-Bourget, the militant supporter of Mgr Lefebvre, said that this was no solution. It failed to understand the issues over fighting and could never be accepted.



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## OVERSEAS

## Africans miss Israel's expertise despite Arab promises of aid

From Eric Marsden  
Jerusalem March 15

Arab pledges of vast aid for the African countries, made at last week's Afro-Arab meeting in Cairo, have not affected Israel's hopes for the eventual restoration of the close ties it once had with many African states.

There have been indications recently that several African leaders are anxious to resume links with Israel and it is believed here that even if the Arab aid pledges are met in full, this desire will not be lessened.

When Mr. Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, made a surprise visit to Geneva last month to meet President Houphouët-Boigny of Ivory Coast there were allegations at home that his mission was a political stunt to divert attention from domestic problems. But Mr. Rabin insisted that the talks were "a link in the chain of efforts to restore effectively and diplomatically Israel's ties with the countries of Africa". A few weeks earlier he had talks with President Senghor of Senegal while attending the Socialist International in Geneva.

The Prime Minister conceded that the process would be a long one but added that African countries were already showing greater understanding of Israel's position.

It was reported that President Houphouët-Boigny told Mr. Rabin that in spite of the lack of diplomatic relations there was no change in Ivory Coast's positive attitude towards Israel.

Most African countries broke with Israel in the

months before the Yom Kippur war in 1973, and the remainder soon after the war. The most publicized rupture was with Uganda, which owed Israel an estimated \$15m.

Uganda has remained uncompromisingly hostile to Israel because of President Amin's switch to the cause of Islam, which was inspired by Libya. This is not true of most African states, which continue to maintain contact with Israel through special interest sections in European embassies and through private business.

Advance reservations are needed for the weekly flight from Tel Aviv to Nairobi, which is regularly filled with Israeli tourists and businessmen.

Ten per cent of the thousands of students from abroad attending courses at educational institutions in Israel are from African countries which have broken diplomatic relations with Israel.

Israel's technical aid programme began in Ghana soon after Ghana won independence and later spread from Africa to Asia and Latin America.

Aid projects in Africa concentrated on developing agriculture, livestock rearing, and veterinary and health services. Israel's help to set up Ghana's Black Star merchant marine and a system of water supply for the Accra district. They started an engineering faculty at Addis Ababa University and taught Ethiopians port maintenance, traffic engineering and how to develop tourism.

They provided ophthalmic services to Liberia and, through a Haifa firm, supervised an oil refinery in Sierra Leone.

## Cairo stays silent on black states' trade ties

From Robert Fisk  
Cairo, March 15

While the Arab and African heads of state were congratulating each other last week on their renewed economic and political cooperation, a number of potentially embarrassing files were lying on the shelves of the Egyptian Ministry of Information in Cairo.

African leaders, who were promised \$1,500m (£900m) in aid from the Arab nations at the Afro-Arab summit here, have agreed to give political support in the struggle against Israel. But the files, which have not been made public, contain details of trading arrangements which have gone on—and in some cases still go on—between Israel and African nations.

According to one of the files, Israel "has played a major trading role in Nigeria, the Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone". The document also refers to an Israeli company that has been

involved in a water resources project in the Malagasy Republic and to a company called Solei Boneh, which has organized road building in Nigeria, including a 750-mile highway. The Saudi Ambassador to the Arab League made some veiled comments in the Egyptian daily *Al-Ahram* two weeks ago, about the need for economic unity, but it seems unlikely there will be any attempt by the Arabs to lean on their African neighbours.

For reasons of morale as well as diplomacy, Arab nations have not told their own people that the African nations have traded with Israel. Nor have they officially mentioned the reports circulating in Cairo only a month ago that Ethiopian troops captured by Eritrean guerrillas at the beginning of the year were armed with Israeli rifles and allegedly admitted they had been trained by Israelis.

## Arafat men willing to form Geneva delegation

From Our Own Correspondent  
Cairo, March 15

Palestinians supporting Mr. Yasser Arafat and other traditional leaders at the Palestine National Council session in Cairo indicated today that all but the 20 Rejection Front representatives among them would be prepared to form an independent delegation to attend a Geneva Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Arafat himself, although not as incautious in private conversation as his colleagues, implied his acceptance of Geneva but steered away further questions by telling the press: "We have to receive an invitation first of all."

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) sent out a series of representatives from the meeting to tell journalists that any Palestinian state must be based on a "political and military struggle" against Israel.

Tonight Mr. Basam Abu Sherif of the PFLP refused even to discuss Geneva, stating that his movement would welcome a Palestinian authority on any part of Palestine regardless of size—even 10 kilometres of it," he said—on the condition that the struggle with Israel could continue from this base.

One sign of the PFLP's consciousness that they form only a very small minority on the council can probably be found in the increasing number of statements they are making to the press about the impossibility of accepting the present balance of power bringing about a settlement. They are referring to the massive Syrian and Egyptian pressure being brought to bear upon the Palestinians for a peaceful settlement with Israel and to the 100 pro-Syrian delegates added to the council to swing majority opinion in Mr. Arafat's favour.



Last-minute campaigning in India: Mr. Jagjivan Ram (left) an opposition leader, welcomes a huge crowd yesterday in Harayana state and Mrs. Gandhi speaks at Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh.

## Opposition see Sanjay gun attack as 'stunt'

From Richard Wigg  
Delhi, March 15

A reported attack last night by gunmen on a Jeep carrying Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, son of the Indian Prime Minister, has been greeted with scepticism by opposition parties, who see it as a last-minute electioneering stunt. Polling in the general election begins tomorrow.

The ruling Congress Party described the incident today as an "assassination bid by unknown miscreants". But a spokesman for the opposition Janata Party alliance, said: "The whole story seems very odd. Nobody believes it. He asked why security guards had not begun an immediate search for the gunmen."

Mr. Gandhi, leader of the Youth Congress, who had just ended his campaign for the Amethi constituency in Uttar Pradesh, was unhurt in the attack, in which five shots were said to have been fired. But according to a local magistrate's report to the Congress-run state government, three shots hit the seat and body of the vehicle.

The magistrate was reported, by Samachar, the state-controlled news agency, to have said that Mr. Gandhi had "a narrow and miraculous escape". Gunmen waiting in another jeep had fired as Mr. Gandhi's vehicle turned a corner late at night in deep countryside. Mr. Gandhi himself is reported to have observed: "I do not know if they were trying to kill or to scare me."

The incident came at a moment of maximum impact as the Indian electorate has 24 hours to make up its mind before polling begins in more than 300 of the 542 constituencies at stake.

Samachar reported that a guard had returned fire but that the gunman escaped in the darkness. All India radio, the only source of news for most of the electorate, continued to give prominence to the episode today.

The rise of Mr. Gandhi, aged 30, especially since the emergency was declared in June, 1975, has been one of the themes of the election campaign. The opposition has repeatedly criticized him over the drive for mass sterilization in rural areas.

Hunger strike: Mr. George Fernandes, the jailed Indian socialist leader, who has been on a hunger strike for five days, was admitted to hospital in Delhi today. A Janata spokesman said his condition was reported to be serious.

Mr. Fernandes, aged 46, who is facing charges of conspiring to overthrow the Government by force, is the Janata candidate for the Muzaffarnagar constituency in North East India. He has been refused bail and began his fast because the Government refused to transfer him to a jail near Muzaffarnagar.

In a statement the Delhi administration said Mr. Fernandes was in a fair condition, and had been placed in hospital as a precaution.—Reuters.

## Smith challenge to 12 rebel MPs

From Michael Knipe  
Salisbury, March 15

Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, addressed the nation on radio and television tonight in a clear attempt to rally popular support for his leadership.

He spoke on the eve of a meeting of the ruling Rhodesian Front's national executive at which his policies are to be challenged by 12 rebel MPs. Mr. Smith regards the rebellion—ostensibly against moves to modify segregation—as a cover for an attempt to oust him from office.

In his broadcast, the Rhodesian leader challenged the 12 rebels to resign their parliamentary seats and to test their backing at by-elections. If they demonstrated they had majority support in their

constituencies, he would then call a general election.

It was a matter of regret, he said, that the 12 rebels had broken the longstanding unity of the Rhodesian Front which had been the despair of Rhodesia's enemies.

The passage through Parliament of the Land Tenure Amendment Bill, which opens up white-only agricultural land to purchase by all race groups, had been misrepresented by some to indicate that his Government had weakened, that it was about to surrender, and that there was no future for the white man in Rhodesia. Mr. Smith deplored that defeatist attitude, "which could not be further from the truth".

The Prime Minister said that Rhodesians were living in "testing times" and were being subjected to "tremendous pressures". These would be increased, he maintained, before any new British approach on the settlement issue was made, and Rhodesians were going to need strong hearts and clear heads in the months ahead.

He concluded: "Everything I possess is in Rhodesia and I intend to remain here. Surely thinking people do not really believe that I and my Government would be party to any plan which would destroy the future of the white man in Rhodesia?"

A special commission is sitting in Salisbury tomorrow to decide whether to strip the Roman Catholic Bishop of Umtali, Mr. Donald Lamont, of his Rhodesian citizenship.

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Leading article, page 17

## Mr Callaghan says US and British policy is aligned

By Hugh Noyes,  
Parliamentary Correspondent  
Westminster

Mr. Callaghan underlined in the Commons yesterday the excellent working and personal relationship that he has developed with President Carter as a result of his recent visit to the United States. Reporting to the House, he made it clear that on all the main issues involving their countries around the world the two leaders are travelling along similar paths.

But the Prime Minister's statement went well beyond the usual clichés common to these occasions. He emphasized that Britain was "fighting for her life" and that it was beholden on anyone travelling abroad to give a fair representation of our country's position. We could no longer afford self denigration and he deplored the trend in which everything wrong was headlined and everything good was put at the bottom of the page.

Of the "appalling picture" of Britain conveyed on American television, the Prime Minister said this was a headline picture culled by American correspondents living in West End bars and never seeing what was going on in other parts of the country. In more informed circles in the United States there was a real understanding of the way the British people were facing the great issues of industrial regeneration.

Emphasizing the importance of the national interests of each of a close and effective working relationship with the United States, the Prime Minister went on to show that to a great extent this had already been achieved. Throughout his statement covering all the important problems facing the western world—unemployment, inflation, economic recession, East-West relations, Rhodesia, apartheid and southern Africa, protectionism, human rights, arms reduction, the North Atlantic alliance, Cyprus and Uganda—it was evident that Britain and the United States would be cooperating closely.

In a brief aside on President Amin, Mr. Callaghan said he thought the Ugandan leader should be kept a little off balance. We should not state our position so clearly that he knew what the response should be. He preferred that President Amin should be kept wondering as to what the actual position would be if he arrived in Britain for the Commonwealth conference.

On Rhodesia Mr. Callaghan said that the United States fully supported British efforts for a settlement. He threw out the hint that the Foreign Secretary during his proposed visit to southern Africa would be prepared to see Mr. Smith if the Rhodesian leader wished to make arrangements for this meeting.

Parliamentary report, page 14

## Coalition thwarts Johannesburg voters

From Nicholas Ashford  
Johannesburg, March 15

Despite winning most seats in Johannesburg's municipal elections earlier this month, the opposition Progressive Reform Party (PRP) was today prevented from taking over the city's management, when the ruling National Party and the United Party joined forces to form a new management committee.

It is the first time in the city's history that the National Party has had a say in the

running of the city's affairs.

The PRP won 9 seats in the elections, four more than its nearest rival but five short of the overall majority needed to take over the city's management committee.

The United Party, which had traditionally governed the city, came third but has succeeded in retaining a presence in the new management committee by collaborating with the National Party to keep the PRP out.

Johannesburg now has a United Party mayor, a National

## Goldwater denial of underworld links

From Peter Stafford  
New York, March 15

Senator Barry Goldwater today denounced the allegations that he has had close links with members of the criminal underworld in his home state of Arizona. Appearing on television this morning, he declared: "It's not only ridiculous, it's completely untrue."

He said that he was shocked and resentful, and was contemplating a libel suit. "In the past 15 years I have been in Arizona a total of possibly six or eight months. I have nothing to do with state government. I don't know a single man out there connected with crime."

The allegations, which have been published in newspapers across the United States, have caused a considerable stir, not least in Arizona. So far, they have concentrated on Senator Goldwater, his brother Robert, and Mr. Harry Rosenzweig, a close friend of theirs; but there is more to come as the series continues.

In the latest instalment, published today by *Newsday*, the Long Island newspaper, and others, Mr. Rosenzweig is accused of having ties with "bookmakers and hoodlums" who helped start Las Vegas on its course to be the gambling capital of the nation", of having "nurture prostitution and gambling in Phoenix for years", and of exercising influence over the police.

The portrait that emerges, the article goes on, is of a society where "there is frequent intermingling of organized crime, politics and business and political leaders". It quotes a Phoenix businessman as saying that Mr. Rosenzweig was the man who brought together the underworld and the top level of society.

This sensational portrait of Arizona is the outcome of a joint investigation by 37 journalists representing 27 different organizations, which was launched after the murder last year of a Phoenix journalist. The series of articles began on Sunday and is to continue for three more weeks.

In his television appearance this morning, Senator Goldwater commented that the reporters had gone to Arizona hoping to solve the journalist's murder, and that when they had found they could not, they "set out to do a job on Arizona".

On the other hand, in spite of his attacks on the series, Senator Goldwater has confirmed some of the allegations made against him. He has confirmed, for instance, that he received a contribution during his first campaign for the Senate from "Willy Bioff, an underworld figure murdered in 1955. At the time, he added, he did not know who Bioff was."

According to yesterday's article, Bioff became a close friend of Mr. Goldwater, who recalled that he met him at an airport and once took on a holiday. "I think I was at his house for drinks twice," Mr. Goldwater commented today. "He lived right down the street from the golf course."

Mr. Goldwater has also confirmed that he knew Gen. Greenbaum, an underworld leader murdered in 1953, though he said that he did not know about his connections; and he has confirmed that he had intervened to help Mr. Newman, a man convicted of a gambling offence.

One of the ironic aspects of the story is that the two main papers in Phoenix, the *Arizona Republic* and the *Phoenix Gazette*, which have the same ownership, have so far not published a word of the articles, even though they have the right to do so and it was one of their reporters, Don Bolles, who was killed last year.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTION CHANGES FROM 6 APRIL 1977.

The main changes are summarised here but leaflet NI.208/April 77, obtainable now from Post Offices and Social Security offices, gives full details.

## CLASS 1 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS &amp; EMPLOYEES

The upper earnings limit up to which contributions are payable will be raised to £105 a week.

The lower earnings limit below which no Class 1 contributions are payable by employer or employee is being raised to £15 a week.

The employer's contribution rate will remain at 8%, but a 2% surcharge will be added for taxation purposes, making the total employer's rate 10%.

The contribution rates for employees will remain unchanged.

New contribution tables (forms CF 391) have been issued direct to employers and further copies can be obtained from Social Security offices.

## CLASS 2 &amp; CLASS 4 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED

Class 2 (flat-rate) contributions for men will be increased to £2.66 a week and those for women to £2.55 a week from the week beginning 10 April.

If you expect to earn less than £875 from self-employment in the 1977/78 tax year, you can apply for exception from liability to pay Class 2 contributions. This is £100 more than the limit for 1976/77.

Class 4 contributions will continue to be at the rate of 8%. However, the lower and upper limits for assessment of profits or gains on which contributions are payable will be raised to £1,750 and £5,500 respectively.

## VOLUNTARY CLASS 3 CONTRIBUTIONS

The flat-rate contribution will be increased to £2.45 a week.



## OVERSEAS



Survival record: Sorin Crainic in a Bucharest hospital after his 252-hour ordeal.

## Man rescued from rubble after 10 days

Bucharest, March 15.—A Romanian who survived 252 hours without food or water under the earthquake rubble is baffling doctors and proving medical textbooks wrong.

He was rescued this morning after being entombed in the debris of a 10-storey Bucharest block of flats for 10 days.

The condition of Sorin Crainic, aged 19, was described by a hospital official "as surprisingly good". He escaped without a scratch, but "suffered from dehydration and shock".

The official described Mr Crainic's survival as "a record unmatched in medical history. It left us agape".

One hospital doctor remarked that a human being usually was unable to live longer than four or five days without water. Last Saturday, however, a 58-year-old woman was dug out from underneath the rubble after eight days without food and water.

Mr Crainic, a worker at the Electromagnetica plant of Bucharest, was conscious when rescuers reached him. "He shook my hand and demanded a glass of water", one rescuer said. "Then he inquired what day it was."

He was rescued because a member of a search party heard a noise when a brick was moved. After several hours of digging they discovered Mr Crainic trapped in a corridor in the basement of the building.

The death toll in the earthquake has now risen to 1,541, with more than 11,000 injured. —AP and Reuters.

## Mr Carter visits Irish on St Patrick's Eve

From Patrick Brogan  
Clinton, Massachusetts  
March 15

The President will meet the people here tomorrow, on his first trip out of Washington since he moved there, give or take a couple of weekend excursions and a quick look at some snow last month.

Clinton is vastly honoured and excited, sprucing itself up and holding practice meetings. It is very indulgent to the mass invasion of television.

The occasion is Clinton's annual Town Meeting. Citizens of New England have been gathering every year in their local churches or town halls since the first settlements, to discuss their problems and vote on them.

It is all very democratic and just the thing to fit Jimmy Carter's image of himself as an ordinary citizen who happens to have made it to the White House.

Ordinary citizens, however, are not followed around by 300 reporters, cameramen, secret service men and other hangers on, but Clinton's town meeting is a television event.

The proceedings will go out live to America and every one in America dances willingly to the television cameras' tune.

Mr Carter will spend the night in the house of Mr Edward Thompson, a local businessman. The Thompsons are Irish Roman Catholics and will have the traditional green candle in their window tomorrow night, the eve of St

Patrick's Day. They are in their 50s, have eight children and are in a tizzy of expectation.

They were not chosen entirely at random. The secret service wanted a large, relatively isolated house with an empty house opposite for themselves. The White House organizers wanted somewhere typical, or somewhere that could be presented as typical, and the President wanted a good night's sleep.

Mr Carter, of course, has been to Massachusetts before. A year ago he lost a primary here badly, before winning in New Hampshire and in Florida. The loss was a nasty shock and even though he carried the state comfortably last November, it is a shock to remember.

Mr Carter still has to build up the sort of personal support he needs if he is to realize his dreams, and the town meeting in Clinton, like his phone-in 10 days ago are steps along the road.

Clinton has 40,000 people—bigger than Plains, Mr Carter's home town, and older but in itself not at all remarkable. It is about 30 miles west of Boston and was thought typical of New England. On Thursday Mr Carter will move on to other things.

First he will fly to West Virginia to discuss energy problems with the citizens of that coal mining state and then in the evening he is going to New York to address the United Nations.

## Tight security in Melbourne for royal visit

Hobart, Tasmania, March 15.—A small group of demonstrators raised banners and waved republican flags when the Queen walked in Hobart today. Others in the crowd of about 5,000 pulled one of the banners down and shouted abuse at the demonstrators.

On the Australian mainland security is being tightened in anticipation of further republican demonstrations in Melbourne tomorrow. Hundreds of police will be on duty when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh drive through the city centre in an open car.

In Sydney, Julian Stirling Gilchrist, aged 22, was remanded until next Monday charged with offensive behaviour. He was said to have shouted "Go home Pommy Queen" at the Queen yesterday. Mr Gilchrist is the son of the Australian Ambassador in Madrid.—Reuters.

## Howard Hughes was worth less than £100m

From Our Own Correspondent  
New York, March 15

Courts in Las Vegas and Houston were told today that Howard Hughes, the eccentric millionaire recluse, was worth a mere \$168m (less than £100m) when he died last year. This sum was a great deal less than the estimates usually given, which have ranged as high as \$2,500m.

The figure was given in a listing of all Hughes's assets as attempts continued to sort out his estate, decide what taxes had to be paid and settle who should inherit. The process is a tangled one, not least because no generally accepted will has been found. Lawyers' fees are said to amount to millions of dollars already.

One problem is to decide which state has jurisdiction. Hughes did not live in the United States for several years before he died.

## American aviation expert speaks up for Concorde

From Peter Strafford  
New York, March 15

The British and French campaign for Concorde landing rights in New York today received resounding support from Aviation Week, a leading aviation magazine.

In a strongly worded leading article, Mr Robert Hotz, the publisher and editor, castigated the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for conducting "an obfuscating bureaucratic delaying action that is typical of that bankrupt municipality".

The article dismissed the arguments that have been used against giving Concorde landing rights at Kennedy airport, saying that they no longer constituted a case. New York needed Concorde if it was not to see its preeminence as the commercial centre of the United States eroded further.

"Only a handful of cynical politicians who are wailing

constituents by fighting the mythical Concorde dragon and a few thousand long-suffering airport vicinities are trying to hold back progress in much the same manner as people who lay down in the early railroad tracks more than a century ago", Mr Hotz wrote.

The noise made by Concorde in the vicinity of airports was about the same as that of early 707s and DC8s, but vanished quicker because of its faster climb, he added. In Washington, where the Concorde has been landing for several months at Dulles Airport, both The Washington Post and the Washington Star, former opponents of Concorde, had called for a similar test period in New York.

In Britain, where anti-Concorde hysteria had been even worse than in New York, a year of actual operations dissolved all the myths its opponents propagated.

## Law Report March 15 1977

## No tax on anticipated profits

Willington (Inspector of Taxes) v International Commercial Bank Ltd  
Before Lord Justice Stamp, Lord Justice Ormrod and Sir John Pennycuik

A bank's profits are not assessable as tax until they are realized and the Crown is not entitled to tax on sums representing fractions of anticipated profits due when bills and promissory notes reach maturity at some future date.

Their Lordships so held (Lord Justice Stamp dissenting) in dismissing an appeal by the House of Lords in *Willington v International Commercial Bank Ltd* for 1967-70.

The bank was incorporated to provide worldwide finance to companies. Its business included purchasing or discounting bills issued by borrowers for periods of less than 10 years. Normally the bills were held to maturity but on occasions it sold them before maturity. Some of the bills carried a fixed rate; others did not. Fractions of the anticipated profits from the bills were included in the bank's annual commercial accounts and assessed to corporation tax on that basis.

Mr Schedule Walton upheld the general commissioners in allowing an appeal by the bank against the assessments on the ground that no amount representing fractional parts of anticipated profits fell to be included in the computation of taxable profits. The Crown appealed.

Mr Michael Nolan, QC, and Mr Brian Davidson, QC, for the Crown; Mr J. R. Gardiner for the bank.

LORD JUSTICE STAMP, in his dissenting judgment, for allowing the appeal, summarized his conclusions. (1) The annual profits accruing from a trade under Case D of the Income Tax Act, 1918, are those profits which are realized in accordance with the principles of commercial accounting but subject to any relevant statutory provisions or overriding principles of tax law.

(2) The bringing in on the credit side of the account of a sum representing a fraction of anticipated profits, of a present debt which was payable in futuro did not offend the principle that profit must not be anticipated.

(3) The amount of the discount on a bill was such a debt, and accordingly to bring to the credit side of the account of the credit side did not offend the principle.

(4) Since the bringing in of a discount before it was received did not offend the principle, it became a matter of accountancy to determine what part of the dis-

count ought to be brought into the account in any year.

(5) It was common ground that, in ascertaining the bank's profits and its realization could be brought into charge as a receipt in those intervening years. The basic scheme of tax law was that income was taxable when received.

It was worth while to make some observations about interest. Plainly it had many features in common with discount, but it differed in that interest accrued from day to day and was usually payable at periodical intervals in the year, whereas nothing accrued or fell due for payment under a discount transaction before maturity. Even interest was not chargeable under Case III before receipt. And where interest was brought into charge as an incoming in the carrying on of a trade, it had been held not to be liable to be brought into charge before receipt: *Bennett v Ogston* (1930) 15 TC 374.

No profit accrued to the bank in the year when it acquired a bill for cash equal to its then market value. Nor had the bank contended that the profit on subsequent realization should be related back to the year of acquisition. What the Crown had said was that the increase in value of the bill over the years should be chargeable under Case III before receipt. And where interest was brought into charge as an incoming in the carrying on of a trade, it had been held not to be liable to be brought into charge before receipt: *Bennett v Ogston* (1930) 15 TC 374.

The case for the Crown called for bringing into account for each of the years that the bills were held, a proportionate amount of their increasing value as maturity approached. The bank contended that the bills were not to become legally entitled as a matter of contract to those separate increments in each of the intervening years. The Crown had been reduced to proposing that just as money might earn interest, so in the case of discounting bills, it also earned discount. That was like saying that because two roads ran from A to B they were the same road. The bank could not as a matter of law be required for tax purposes to bring into account aliquot parts of its ultimate profit in each of the years during which the bills were maturing.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK said that the type of transaction in the bills could be analysed in legal terms. Assume a bill with face value of £1,500 maturing in 1975 taken up by the bank in 1970 against a payment of £1,000. In 1970 the bank parted with £1,000 and received in return a chose in action consisting of an obligation to pay £1,500 in 1975. The market value of the bill at the time of its acquisition in 1970 was the price paid for it by the bank (£1,000). Over the years 1971-74 its market value increased as the maturity date approached, but unless there was a sale before maturity, there was no realization. In 1975 the bank received £1,500 in return for the chose in action, which was then realized by discounting the bill. At that point the bank "realized", in another sense of the word, a profit—the excess of £1,500 over £1,000. The bank had admitted to be brought into account for the purpose of tax in some year. The position would be the same if the bank sold the bill before maturity in, say, 1972 for £1,200. It then "realized" a chargeable profit of £200.

There was no legitimate ground on which the increase in value in such a chose in action over the years between its acquisition and its realization could be brought into charge as a receipt in those intervening years. The basic scheme of tax law was that income was taxable when received.

It was worth while to make some observations about interest. Plainly it had many features in common with discount, but it differed in that interest accrued from day to day and was usually payable at periodical intervals in the year, whereas nothing accrued or fell due for payment under a discount transaction before maturity. Even interest was not chargeable under Case III before receipt. And where interest was brought into charge as an incoming in the carrying on of a trade, it had been held not to be liable to be brought into charge before receipt: *Bennett v Ogston* (1930) 15 TC 374.

No profit accrued to the bank in the year when it acquired a bill for cash equal to its then market value. Nor had the bank contended that the profit on subsequent realization should be related back to the year of acquisition. What the Crown had said was that the increase in value of the bill over the years should be chargeable under Case III before receipt. And where interest was brought into charge as an incoming in the carrying on of a trade, it had been held not to be liable to be brought into charge before receipt: *Bennett v Ogston* (1930) 15 TC 374.

The bank had made up its accounts so as to spread the anticipated profit on the bills over the period between acquisition and maturity. In so doing, it was acting in accordance with the principles of commercial accountancy. But that did not preclude it from contending that the anticipated profit thus shown was not to be taken into account in determination of the profit of its trade for the purpose of tax.

It was worth observing that the transactions in the bills presented complications not reflected in the simple form of account adopted by the bank and sought to be applied by the Crown. Many of the bills were in foreign currencies; some were sold before maturity; others resulted in a loss. Those complications made the Crown's proposition considerably less attractive. Furthermore, while the bank would not doubt not be financially embarrassed by these assessments, comparable assessments might render traders without adequate financial resources insolvent; they would have to pay tax on a profit before the realization of the asset put them in funds to meet the tax.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Travers Smith, Braithwaite & Co.

## Court of Appeal

## Footpath on county map still has rights of vehicular passage

Suffolk County Council v Mason and Others

Before Sir Douglas Frank, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division

[Judgment delivered March 10]

The ancient vehicular rights attached to a lane could not be extinguished merely by its inclusion as a footpath on a definitive map of the county drawn up under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.

His Lordship rejected Suffolk County Council's claim for a declaration that, on a true construction of the Act, the fact that their first revised definitive map showed Marsh Lane in the parish of Kessingland as a footpath was conclusive evidence that it was a highway over which the public had a right of way on foot only, and granted a declaration to Mr E. S. L. Mason, of Denes Holiday Camp, Kessingland, and four other defendants, that the public had a full right of way, including passage for vehicles, over Marsh Lane.

Mr Alan Fletcher for the council; Mr Gerald Moriarty, QC, and Mr Stuart Sleeman for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Suffolk County Council sought a declaration that on January 1, 1961, the date of the first review of the definitive map for the county, Marsh Lane was a highway over which the public had a right of way on foot only. The review was carried out by the council in pursuance of their powers under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, and the first revised map showed Marsh Lane as a footpath.

The Rev Dr E. C. Brooks, Rector of Somerleyton, had set out in an affidavit the history of Kessingland from the Stone Age. For several centuries it had been the largest port on that part of the Suffolk coast, and from at least Norman times, Marsh Lane was the main roadway to the harbour. When the harbour declined the lane was used by carts for the collection of reeds. Marsh Lane had always been known as a lane, which meant a surfaced road between hedges, and that fact coupled with its width of 20ft, was further corroborated by its use as a cartway. Dr Brooks concluded that Marsh Lane had been a public cartway from time immemorial.

The council now admitted that

conclusion and said that it would be taken into account on the next review, but that in the meantime the position at law was that Marsh Lane could only be used as a footpath. On their behalf it was submitted that as the definitive map was conclusive evidence that there was a footpath along Marsh Lane and as by the definition in section 27 of the Act a footpath means a highway over which the public have a right of way on foot only, other than such a highway at the side of a public road, the public right of way over Marsh Lane was as a footpath and *ex hypothesi* it was not a public cartway. Counsel conceded that *Attorney General v Honeywell* ([1972] 1 WLR 1506) was against him, but he contended that it had been wrongly decided and sought assistance from other cases.

Counsel for the defendants relied on *Honeywell's* case, and argued that there was nothing in the Act which gave the council powers to extinguish a highway, and granted a declaration to Mr E. S. L. Mason, of Denes Holiday Camp, Kessingland, and four other defendants, that the public had a full right of way, including passage for vehicles, over Marsh Lane.

Classification of highways at common law, according to Sir Edward Coke, was: (1) it might be a footway appropriated to the sole use of pedestrians; (2) a bridleway which was a footway and horseway; (3) a cartway which comprehended the other two and was also a cart or carriage way. Whichever class a highway belonged to, it was still a highway and over a highway always a highway. The public could not release their rights, and there was no extinctive presumption or prescription; nor was the public right lost by disuse. In the absence of express statutory authority or destruction by natural causes, there could be no extinguishment of a highway. Those presumptions must be applied with equal force to any demotion of a highway.

Power to extinguish a highway was formerly vested in quarter sessions. Nowadays, the final arbiter was a minister of the Crown, but before an order could be made extinguishing a highway there had to be safeguards for those persons likely to be affected, with adequate publication and, in the event of an objection, a public inquiry.

Therefore, Parliament must not be deemed to authorise the extinction of a highway or the destruction of rights in a highway unless it did so in express terms.

So far as highways were concerned, the Act of 1949 was designed, according to its long title, "to make further provision for the recording, creation, maintenance and improvement of public paths and for securing access

to open country." The scheme of Part 4 of the Act, which related to public rights of way, was to ascertain, define, publicize and preserve footpaths and bridleways. It was not, therefore, the purpose of the Act to extinguish highways and nowhere in it was there such a power. Accordingly the ancient vehicular rights attached to Marsh Lane would not be extinguished by a sidewalk of the process of defining and publicizing a footpath unless the language of the statute compelled one to do so. Thus it was necessary to look at the sections on which the council relied.

Section 32(4) provided that where the map shows a footpath, the map shall be conclusive evidence that there was at the relevant date specified in the statement a footpath as shown on the map. That subsection established that the definitive map was conclusive evidence that there was a footpath on the line of Marsh Lane but it did no more. Thus the map had to say that "only" in the definition of a footpath in section 27(6) conclusively established that there was only a footpath and nothing more.

His Lordship did not think that the words bore the meaning contended for by the council. The common law definition of a footpath was a highway over which the public had a right of way on foot only; thus as a footpath there were no other rights of way. More-over, the words that followed in the definition in section 27(6), "other than such a highway at the side of a public road", presupposed that there could be such a highway, namely a footpath within a public road which still fell within the definition of a footpath. That construction was necessary in order to avoid conflicts which would otherwise arise, for example by section 34 of the Highways Act, 1959, Marsh Lane would be deemed to have become a highway after 20 years' uninterrupted use. The purpose of section 32 of the 1949 Act was to establish that a highway shown on the definitive map should remain so for all time but that did not preclude any additional rights of way which the public might have.

There would be judgment for the defendants and a declaration that Marsh Lane was a public highway over which the public had a full right of way, including rights of way for the passage of vehicles.

Solicitors: Sharpe, Pritchard & Co for Mr K. O. Hall, Ipswich; Siddons, Haslemere.

## Queen's Bench Division

## Selling goods at undervalue

Pilgram v Rice-Smith and Another  
Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Eveleigh and Mr Justice Wain

[Judgment delivered March 10]

Where a shop assistant sells goods at an undervalue to a customer who is involved in the scheme of the shop, the sale is open to a charge of theft. It does not matter that theft of only part of the goods is charged and that the whole is recovered.

The Divisional Court so held when considering an appeal by the prosecution, by way of case stated, from the Crown Court (Judge Moylan). Derek Smith and Mrs Doreen Rice-Smith and Mrs Heather May Church, the respondents, were charged under section 1 of the Theft Act, 1968. They had appealed to the Crown Court, where it had been held that there was no case to answer.

The respondents had been charged with the theft of that portion of the goods which had not been paid for, and the questions for the consideration of the court were whether the evidence disclosed a prima facie case of theft and whether it was necessary to be able to point to a specific part of the goods as having been appropriated.

Mr Francis Irwin, QC, and Mr John Akers for the appellants; Mr Igor Judge (who did not appear below) for the respondents.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the prosecution had an information against the respondents jointly that they stole corned beef and bacon worth £21p from the International Stores, East Dereham. The justices found them guilty.

The Crown Court found that Mrs Rice-Smith, an assistant employed at the shop, had sold 18p of corned beef and 3p of bacon to Mrs Church with well over a quarter of corned beef, and marked 20p on the wrapping. She also served her with more than a pound of bacon and marked 38p on the wrapping. Mrs Church then walked round the store, selected further articles and went out of the check-out. She paid £1.04, including 20p for the corned beef and 3p for the bacon. It was said that she should have paid 82p more.

For the purposes of the present appeal the court would assume that the Crown Court had found the transaction to be fraudulent from the start. But the decision in favour of the respondents was achieved in a different way. The judge had been of the opinion that since they were not charged with theft of the whole and it was not possible to point to any part that was stolen, there was no case to answer. That was a narrow point of law, but the present appeal was important because many cases might depend on it.

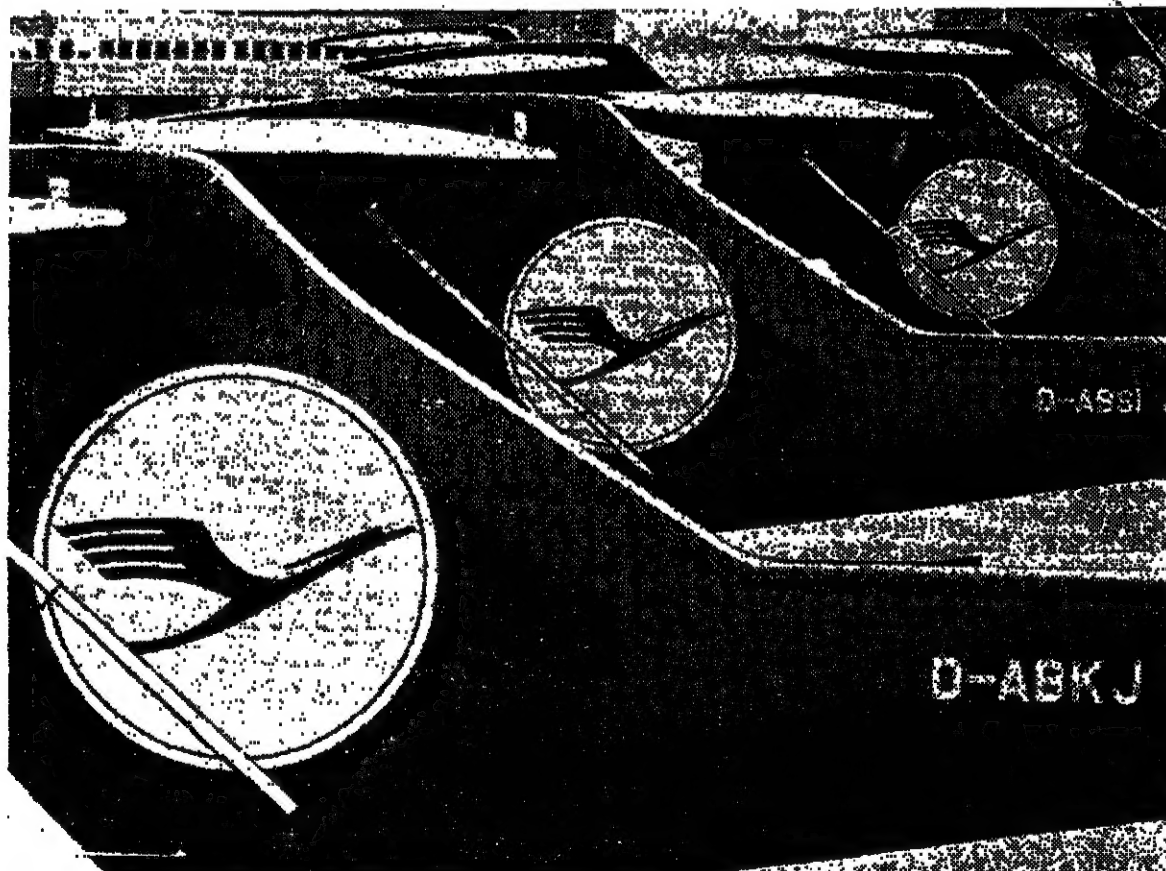
The judge at the Crown Court had not had any authority cited to him. In particular, *Indeswell* (1965) 2 KB 273 had not been cited. There was obviously a consideration of similar issues in that case and the present. Treating it as a case of a single article one paid a sale whereby the price was fraudulently mis-stated, that part was not paid for. *Lacis v Cashmires* (1969) 2 QB 400 supported this view.

The court must treat Mrs Church as involved from the start, and the bacon and corned beef as a single parcel. The sale was a nullity from the start because the woman behind the counter had no authority to sell at an undervalue. That opened the door to a charge of theft. It did not matter that the respondents were charged with theft of part and theft of the whole was proved.

Mr Irwin had indicated that he did not intend to press for the case to be sent back. Accordingly, on his undertaking to withdraw the appeal, there would be no order.

Solicitors: Mr I. V. Bates, Norwich; Messrs. Farrier & Staveley, King's Lynn.

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## ARTS

## Tony Richardson's West Country vaudeville

or two away from his director, and three years out of England, Richardson is back in the premiere of film *Joseph Andrews* of the month.

"I'll all come expecting bloody Tom Jones," he says, "and that at all. Both films books by Henry Fielding are about all they can do."

In terms of hard cash, *Tom Jones* is precisely chardson now needs. In years since that first released it has one of the most successful ever made country, and is reputed to be the director and its (her) Finney) above all 1 worries for some time. Since then son has directed ten films, of which a couple *Charge of the Light Brigade* and *A Delicate* have been enthusiastically viewed but almost none ch has made real box-profits. Richardson is now in urgent need of a not to his own private since he is visibly not to his last shift) but in to retain a "bankable" a when it comes to money for other colla-jects in an increasingly film market.

Last three or four haven't been too good,

I'll admit: there was a disastrous picture called *Dead Cert* and before *Wed Kelly* when I tried to harness the pop-music energy of Mick Jagger to a film and totally failed, through no real fault of his. But the real problem is the way the film industry has changed since we started Woodfall Films nearly 20 years ago. Then you could afford to have a good many failures and there was room for the small-budget, small-profit 'art' film. Now all those are being made for television, and all the film producer can do is hit the jackpot or else go bust. Nobody wants to nurse a film along any more."

Richardson still has the two children by his marriage to Vanessa Redgrave living in this country, as well as a third child from a later alliance, but he himself is nowadays more often to be found in Hollywood, where he recently bought a house from Linda Lovelace.

"I don't really see much point in keeping a home here since so much of my work now seems to be abroad. Most of my time lately has been spent out in California trying to set up a film called *The Bodyguard* which Jack Nicholson and I am very keen to do but nobody else is; we either had the cast or the money but never both at the same time, so when Joseph Andrews came along I saw at last the prospect of actually getting a film off the ground again."



In fact, Richardson had been thinking about Joseph Andrews intermittently ever since *Tom Jones*:

"I've always wondered about whether I could turn it into a script. Fielding actually wrote it before *Tom Jones* and intended it as a satire on Pamela which had just been published in 1740. But the satire was lost and he went on instead to invent this great comic epic in prose which he filled with what he called 'persons of inferior rank and manners'."

For the film, Richardson has assembled a cast headed by Peter Firth and featuring Peggy Ashcroft, John Gielgud, Michael Boreland, Beryl Reid and Jim Dale, to say nothing of one or two familiar faces from *Tom Jones* including that

idea of spending, say, six months shooting a film appeals me."

Despite the importance of this picture to his own film-making future, Richardson will not in fact be doing a great deal to promote it himself:

"I've never been the kind of director who's been good at going on television explaining why he made a film or what he thinks it's about. Some directors really are good at that; and they tend to be the ones who like their films best while we're actually making them: once they're complete, as far as I'm concerned they're over, and it's on to the next. I also find that my own ambitions are different now: 10 or 15 years ago I was quite happy to be involved in Woodfall as a producer, helping to set up not only my own films like *A Taste of Honey* and *The*

Loneliness of the Long-distance Runner, but also other films like Dick Lester's *The Knack* and Karel Reisz's *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning*. But now I really only want to be involved in projects that I'm going to direct, which is partly why Woodfall produces so much less these days."

Also, of course, it is very much harder now to get a film started in this country: there's a kind of despair which I don't really understand, and now you have to decide not just what film you want to make but what film you could actually raise the money for. I've been spending too much of my time on interesting projects that came to nothing, and I've now got to be more realistic."

But what about the theatre, where Richardson did much of his best work in the late Fifties when with George Devine he co-directed the Royal Court?

"Somehow I no longer feel very involved in the theatre, though I'm always happy to go to it from time to time. If there's an interesting project: I directed *Vanessa in Lady from the Sea* in New York last year, but that was a limited engagement and I knew I had the film to do immediately after it; usually it is much more difficult to schedule a play to fit in with whatever film work is going on at the time. I'm also less and less inclined to use playwrights as screenwriters, not because I don't admire many of them but because they never seem to want to collaborate, and all cinema is about collaboration."

"Besides all that, I really am happy in California. It must be something to do with having been born in Bradford, David Hockney enough to be a part away from me and he feels the same way about it. Apart from being the one place where you can still raise money for films, sometimes it's also a surprising and beautiful city, Los Angeles, just so long as you don't approach it with European eyes. California is all about cars and movement, and because of that mobility you don't find the divisions that cut through society over here. Looking around London 20 years after we first did *Look Back in Anger* at the Court I'm appalled by how little has really changed: it's still a 'them and us' society. There was also an explosion of talent at that time in both the theatre and the cinema which I don't think has been repeated; now the focus has shifted towards music and the other arts."

But it would be wrong to indicate that Mr Richardson often finds himself looking back in nostalgia:

"I've kept nothing: no scrap-books, no notes, no reviews, no photographs, and I certainly don't believe the immediate past was so good that we have now to hang on to it. But I do worry about a lack of generosity around at the moment: there is a ludicrous desire to see other people fall—look at the treatment the press have recently given the National Theatre."

Sheridan Morley

## The Cherry Orchard Nottingham

Irving Wardle

Chelkoff, we are always being reminded, called his last play a comedy, but this is the first production I have seen that goes halfway to earning that label.

This is one contribution Trevor Griffiths's new version makes to the play's history, and not, I must say, a slight away, at the expense of the characters. With a writer as politically literate as Griffiths, there was always a danger of seeing the piece distorted by revolutionary hindsight starting an idealized Trofimov.

In Griffiths's terms, as in Chelkoff's, the sale of the Ismaili Museum's gallery to a certain pre-revolutionary figure, none of whom has the author in his pocket. What Griffiths has done, apart from giving the peasants Lancashire accents, is to clarify the characters' individual stakes in the sale of the estate. Thus the famous Chekhovian egoisms become tied to the principle of economic self-interest.

There is no poetic bloom on the text, nor on Richard Eyre's production: the nursery is evoked with a rocking horse, the orchard with a glow of morning light through the open shutters. All attention is focused on anatomizing the characters' desires and their class ambivalence.

You see the pattern at its clearest in the ambiguous duel between Dave Hill's Lopakhin and Bridget Turner's Mme Raneyevsky. This, she snaps, is my cherry orchard, and she can instantly subdue him to a "hand-dancing" position. That is their personal contact. But towards Raneyevsky's class he is a formidable, snarling antagonist: as the production establishes just after the sale.

In this version, Lopakhin

breaks a statue on the way out; no bother to clear it up, he says "I can pay", one of the many passages in which Griffiths and his director have sharpened up Chekhov's point to make it stick deeper. Again and again I was struck by passages that seemed totally unfamiliar. "From every tree in your orchard," Trofimov tells Anya, "there are people hanging." But no, it is there in the standard text, in a more muted form, usually passed over unnoticed.

As for the comedy, Nottingham at present enjoys the services of Anthony Sher, a superlative clown, whose diminutive Eukhordov, beaming, wipers panic, and executing virtuoso trips and nimbles, each timed at the least expected moment, supplies a farcical line which no doubt he would have supplied to any production. Griffiths additionally has given him a rich sequence of clerical malapropisms and pedantries plus the superb visual gag of getting entangled with Charlotte's trick playing cards at the party.

Otherwise, the fun derives from increasing the distance between people as other Annie Hayes's Vanya goes through the play in a constant state of vixenish frustration, Mick Ford's Trofimov in an urgent desire to shed his gauche private self by getting up on a platform, and John Barrett's to the good old days with unpredictable moments of perfect hearing, as when he responds to one of Yasha's insults with a brisk "up yours!"

Neither in Firs nor anyone else is there any invitation to pathetic sympathy: in their own ways they are all tough and less important than the historical forces moving around them: a point brought out clearly in the puppet-like tableaux at the opening of each act, and the staging of the party for a masked group of ghosts dancing the minuet in a cold house.

## Don Giovanni Covent Garden

William Mann

Monday's revival of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* at the Royal Opera allowed Bernard Haitink to make his debut there,

in an opera which he will be conducting in the summer for Glyndebourne shortly before becoming music director there. The revival at Covent Garden also introduces a new Giovanni and a new Zerlina.

Haitink's sense of scale and feeling for rhythm stand his reading in good stead: he found a light touch, nicely sensitive, for the balcony trio "Ah, taci, taci, taci, taci!" which brought the best from his singers; both super scenes began with a glow of jollity, and for the tender soliloquy of Zerlina in "Vedrai, carino" his hushed cooing of the orchestra was as enchanting as Elizabeth Gale's singing of it on stage.

Yet the main impression left by his direction of the score was of grandeur, the events in the drama that are larger than life. Now and then his touch was uncharacteristically heavy, in Leporello's Catalogue aria and Zerlina's "Barri, barri", both almost humdrum when they should tease.

The new Don Giovanni, Michael Devlin, has played the part in his native America and Germany, and has sung other roles here. Again his bright, incisive baritone, which softens insinuatingly for "La ci darem"

and "Deh, vieni", is to be admired, likewise his tall, athletic stature. He looks the voice, devil-may-care young lion to the life, with a hint of the prematurely aging sayr who gladly gives up his exhumed quest, in the end, and almost looks forward to the tranquility of eternal damnation.

As yet, though, his portrayal also suggests something of the top, and contrarily of the clean-living outdoor boy: they are all part of Don Giovanni, and are not yet quite integrated in Mr Devlin's interpretation. Amid much vivid and attractive singing, his uncynical delivery of "Fin chimio del vino" and his coarse ranting at Elvira in the supper scene were regrettable.

Miss Gale's Zerlina is not only adorable to watch and hear, but cunningly judged and timed, witness her unwillingness to face Giovanni when he makes up to her; her voice has gained richness and radiance, but is never forced. If only the same might be written of Yasuko Hayashi's Donna Anna, much coarser now than before, or Elizabeth Vaughan's skilled but often rasping Elvira (very pretty, all the same).

With the German Evonne Leporello, Paul Hudson's stout, warty Masetto, and Gwynne Howell's Commendatore, happier territory is reached again. The weird, no longer challenging settings are made up for by the still handsome costumes, but John Copley's production is beginning to languish. Voices were heard looking hopefully forward to Peter Hall's new production at Glyndebourne.

## National Opera plans

The English National Opera will stage six new productions in the 1977/78 season. On September 9 Charles Mackerras will conduct the first performance of *La Bohème* produced by Jean-Claude Auvray and designed by Hubert Monopoul, with Valerie Masterson, David Rendall, Lorna Haywood and Christian du Plessis in the principal parts.

The second production, on September 28, is David Blake's *Toussaint*, with Liberto with Anthony Ward and Neil Howlett in the title role. Mark Elder conducts and David Pountney produces. The debut of young Maria Bjornson *Toussaint* is the fourth opera commissioned by the English National Opera with the help of

the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation.

Weber's *Euryanthe*, conductor Sir Charles Groves, producer John Blatchley, follows on November 2. It will be given in a new English translation by John Warlock, with Stefanos Lazaridis, Janacek's *The Excursions of Mr Bruckner* is promised for December 30, in a production by David Pountney conducted by Charles Mackerras.

Beethoven's *Fidelio*, conducted by Sir Charles Groves and produced by Joachim Herz, on March 11 next year and Martin's *Julietta*, on March 30 complete the new productions. *Julietta*, a New Opera Company production, has Charles Mackerras as conductor and Anthony Besch as producer.

## Vampire Bush

Ned Chaillet

It gets in the blood, vampirism, and flows in the family way through genes. The psychopomp young girl of the first part of *Shogun Wilson's* revival and revised play dreams that Dracula is her ravisher, though it is only her sister's fiancé. It is later, at a séance, that her father, a Welsh clergyman, attacks her in a coffin and makes her pregnant while all the witnesses are murdered.

Two generations later, on the eve of the Second World War, another young woman reveals that just that thing happened to her grandmother. That young woman comes to conceive in a union with the astral body of a young cricketer killed in the war.

Mr Wilson's riotous assemblage of spirits also manages to stir the ghost of Charles Dickens for a reading of the death of Little Nell and rain the speech from Sigmund Freud, meanwhile parading a nativity scene and the virgin birth of a fanged infant. The first act, with sexual possession rattling the bed above a seance and a demonic, voluptuous performance from Patti Love, and the play's height of comedy, a manic hellzapoppin of invention, sliding from verbal frolics to pure slapstick.

What follows, though dotted with ideas, is ragged in its probe of sex and repression, myth and compulsion. Dusty Hughes' direction pinpoints the laughs in Mr Wilson's comic cosmology, and with a superb cast draws particularly fine performances from Neil Johnston, as, among other things, an ox and a Hell's Angel, and from Linda Marlowe and Diana Patrick in a variety of roles.

There are only moments of creaking coffin lids and caped figures in the moonlight in *Vampire*, but spiritual possession and people at odds with gentle society and religion proliferate. If the final message is clouded by sombre digressions, Mr Wilson's play is as lively with entertainment as a well-used crystal ball.

Some of the articles on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

## Kupfer's electrifying Elektra

There is nothing dull or routine about the Welsh National Opera's choice of producers at the moment. William Gaskill made his operatic debut a few weeks back when he directed *The Barber of Seville* for the company—it can be seen in Cardiff at the end of the month. Joachim Herz, the new administrator of East Berlin's Komische Oper, has been signed for *Madam Butterfly* and his view of the on-stage operations of the American Navy should not be short on controversy on the evidence of his distinguished *Salome* for the Coliseum. And in just over a year's time Harry Kupfer, from Dresden, will be staging Richard Strauss's *Elektra* in Wales.

Holland has already had a sight of Kupfer's production, which the WNO will borrow with a few minor alterations. It is unashamedly director's opera. Most of the conventional ideas about *Elektra* have been thrown out of the window by Kupfer and his designer Wilfried Wenz, if indeed there were any windows through which ideas could be thrown. Gone are the usual porticoes, featuring Klytemnestra and instead the stage is covered with sheets of polythene, as though Szereimay were about to move and wash down the walls of the house of Atreus. The clothes of the serving maids in the opening scene are scattered with the blood of the slaughtered animals they are lugging across the stage. The implication is that Aegisthus is not so much running a court as an abattoir.

To the right of the stage is a 20-ft statue apparently decapitated by some monster frightened child. The arms are outstretched but the flesh has already been eaten away. The musical prelude announces that this is the murdered Agamemnon, and the ropes which shackle the body suggest the net which Klytemnestra threw over her husband long before the opera starts so that Aegisthus could stab him. Through-out the 100 or so minutes of Strauss's score Elektra uses the statue as a refuge, caressing his calves, which is about as far as she can reach, pulling on the ropes which bind him. With Orestes, her brother, she sings the duet of exultation in vengeance between the legs of Agamemnon and in the final dance of ecstasy she is constantly tugged back to the statue before collapsing at its feet.

Harry Kupfer makes visually a point reiterated in the score: the central character of *Elektra* is Agamemnon. He is omnipresent; he sparks all the action. The symbol is perfectly in key with the music, but one or two of the other inventions are more questionable. Kupfer has the main entries made over a dinky white bridge, more suitable for the



Anny Schlemm and Hanna Rumowska

first act of *Madam Butterfly* than Strauss. The fifth serving girl is stripped and slaughtered for reasons which escaped me. And Orestes makes a reappearance during the closing bars, his hands covered with blood. Just how much these support Strauss and Hofmannsthal is open to doubt, but there is no denying the overall strength of Kupfer's production. He is out to show the brutality of the Eastern Mediterranean, as Herz did in his *Salome*. But unlike Herz, who anchored the earlier Strauss opera firmly in Herod's palace, Harry Kupfer removes anything which refers specifically to Mycenae. Indeed, the most Grecian prop on view is the simple black peasant dress covering Elektra.

From his singers Kupfer draws superbly uninhibited performances. The best of them is given by Anny Schlemm, the veteran German mezzo who I last heard singing for Felsenstein at the Komische Oper. Her Klytemnestra is a glittering white road with a gash of red for a mouth and two eyes darkening with sleeplessness. Following Hofmannsthal's instructions her neck is hung with jewels, pendants and talismans; against Hofmannsthal's wishes the purple robe has become brilliant white, presumably to contrast with Elektra's peasant black. Miss Schlemm exudes self-horror, so that the soft comment to her daughter that she no longer sleeps at night ("Ich habe keine guten Nächte") is almost superfluous. The voice is still full, the diction immaculate. Miss Schlemm can act, as the sisters away on her branches under the lash of Elektra's tongue. To my delight she will be appearing in the WNO production.

The strength of Anny Schlemm's *Elektra* is the evening. She began by singing much of "Allein! Weh, ganz allein" to the polythene-covered floor rather than out into the auditorium. There was not much of the wildest suggested by the serving maids. But from this almost genteel beginning Miss Rumowska paced herself well, building up to the confrontation with Chrysothemis (slightly cut) and the reunion with Orestes, where the voice took on the right tones of ecstasy and command. Anna Alexieva, flounced out in white and mad as Donizetti's Lucy on her wedding night, is an extraordinarily accomplished Chrysothemis, exposing all her neuroses at every opportunity and hugging Elektra in feminine delight: "Ich bin ein Weib und ein Weiberschicksal".

Gunther Reich's Orestes was too stolid and too middle-aged in the face of these wild women, but it was excellently sung.

Michael Glezen kept his orchestra at modest power for much of the evening, ignoring Strauss's famous complaint that at one moment in the rehearsal for the premiere he could still hear Schumann-Heink. He unleashed the full sound at the end when it was clear that Rumowska had plenty of voice in reserve. The Amsterdam audience gave the singers an immediate standing ovation at the end of the performance and any Welshmen there could go back home fairly confident that they have a winner for next March.

John Higgins

## Sartre pulls them in in Paris

Sartre is the first to admit that he has become landlocked in a cleft of cultural tradition. The younger generation have espoused new ideologies, reserving a place for Sartre in their education, but rarely they debate. Structuralism, of any brand or discipline, dominates the French intellectual climate, and Sartre is as provocatively contrary with *Levi-Strauss* and Lacan as he was with de Gaulle, Castro and Camus, at various points in time.

Sartre's participation in Maoist groups, his endorsement of several of their publications in the early Seventies, his frequent appearance in their demonstrations, and his conclusion that "one must abandon one's role as intellectual to put oneself at the service of the masses", did not convince the public of his youthfulness or relevance. They tended to feel that he was playing the clown.

It is, therefore, all the more surprising that a three-and-a-half hour film, *Sartre par lui-même*, should be showing to packed houses in Paris. Especially when the director, Alexandre Astruc, decided to leave camera angles to chance, and the questions to himself and a supporting cast from the review, *Les Temps Modernes*. The action was limited to a few attempts at musical chairs and the occasional lighting up of a cigarette.

Simone de Beauvoir, had little choice but to take responsibility for the film: he added the humour by lampooning himself, provided the drama, by disagreeing with Madame de Beauvoir, and almost managed to crystallize the material of a revoltingly cinematic film. His sense of the moment, his awareness of the dictates of a filmed interview, revealed, in miniature, his outstanding capacity to live within the flux of time. And this impression was clarified by a chronological history of the part he played in major events.

It became evident that Sartre's rejection of the current fashion for Structuralism does not stem from a withdrawal from contemporary society into a private ideological haven. It is rather that he rejects a philosophy which substitutes timeless patterns for the particularities and idiosyncrasies of events.

And although Sartre has changed position many times, there is an underlying consistency in his method of arriving at a conviction: every attitude is submitted to ruthless reappraisal. He spares neither his own attitudes nor those of his age. The only time Sartre allowed his voice to speak for a fashion was during the Existentialist boom. And one must not forget that it was he who created that fashion.

Melinda Camber Porter

A Special Loan Exhibition from the Museums of Cologne at The National Gallery

## Late Gothic Art from Cologne

Painting, sculpture, textiles, manuscripts, stained glass

Opens 5th April

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ports.



## SPORT

## Football

## Fear gives Bristol a straw to clutch

By Gerald Richmond

Bristol City 2 Derby Co 2

Bristol City showed admirable resolution in their home match against Derby County to draw at Ashton Gate last night. Two goals down at half-time, Bristol fought back to earn a point which gives them a straw to clutch. Had they lost to one of their opponents in distress, the damaged morale would have been considerable; yet both sides seemed to have the quality and spirit to survive, however tight the situation at the foot of the table.

Derby were left disappointed, feeling with some justification that Fear had pulled the ball down with a hand, before hitting in the equalising goal with five minutes left. For Derby, on the brink of their first away win in the League this season, it was frustrating.

Considering the conditions, the football was far better than could have been expected. Rain was driven by a stiff end-to-end wind and the amount which had fallen during the day made the pitch of the ball hard to judge. It was, too, an awkward night for goalkeepers, as Shaw demonstrated early on when he strained to touch a corner from James against the bar, and let a cross-shot from Hector squeeze through his arms.

Bristol were always seeking to release their full-back down the wings and the long centre caused scrambling situations in the muddy goalmouth, although Todd's pace was usually enough to get him out of trouble. Derby, too, had been restricted to half-chances before they came to life with two goals in the last 10 minutes around the half-hour.

Collier headed out a corner from James, and Dally scored his first goal since moving to Derby. The ball struck the bar and bounced back into the goal.

Manchester United with a devastating volley. If this was a stroke of sheer quality, Bristol could blame only themselves for the



Dally the devastator: His first goal since moving to Derby.

second goal. The defence was well set, and Dally hit a long free kick and, although Hales and Hector had shots blocked, the ball was never cleared, and Hales hammered it in. Goals from him have been rare since his expensive transfer from Luton to Derby, but this was the kind of chance he was bought to accept.

Bristol showed superb reflexes when he beat away a shot from Whitehead and, when Derby were struggling to hold on, made an excellent line of play.

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than outside the far post, but Bristol came right back into the game after 65 minutes when Sweeney cut inside James and hit a fine shot wide of Boulton.

Gulliver, like Sweeney, sought down James, who was himself cautioned for deliberately handling. Boulton suffered a similar fate for time-wasting, yet no time was added on. Considering the importance of the game to both clubs, it was clearly fought, with Derby, for an hour, reminding the crowd of their recent high state.

Derby, too, had been struggling to hold on, made an excellent line of play. Collier headed out a corner from James, and Dally scored his first goal since moving to Derby.

Manchester United with a devastating volley. If this was a stroke of sheer quality, Bristol could blame only themselves for the

## The Kop has to take back seat in importance

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

Liverpool's return leg of their European Cup quarter-final match against St Etienne at Anfield tonight (7.30) brings an exact reversal of roles from the match in France a fortnight ago. There, though the Kop was present in defiance and intelligently contained last year's European Cup finalists, the French will hope to defend their slight advantage against the background of the Kop and Liverpool's relentless pressure. The reverse suggests that they are well versed in such operations.

In the season's European Cup competition so far, St Etienne have forced goalkeepers away from home with PSV Eindhoven and Borussia Dortmund, the only goal scored against them in their nine most recent games in European competition was the one that defeated them in last season's European Cup final against Bayern Munich at Hampden Park.

Liverpool's European experience over 13 years, but they have only once reached the semi-finals, and that was in 1965, and since then have four times failed to overcome a 1-0 deficit. Pierre Carnon, St Etienne's general manager, was probably aware of that when he accepted the challenge of the Kop, and Liverpool's relentless pressure. The reverse suggests that they are well versed in such operations.

These influences of history and atmosphere are relevant enough but three variations in the team make a difference. Liverpool's central defender, in his absence of a Liverpool defender, is missing because of a knee injury. Liverpool's left wing, in his absence of a Liverpool defender, is missing because of a knee injury.

Derby, too, had been struggling to hold on, made an excellent line of play. Collier headed out a corner from James, and Dally scored his first goal since moving to Derby.

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## Cricket



No rest for the wicketkeeper: Marsh's catch as he and Lillee forsake the laws of cricket for Australian Rules.

## England's batsmen must get their heads down

From Colin Cowdrey

Melbourne, March 15

It had to happen. Melbourne is a good ground for stroke makers and it was just a matter of time before the batsmen came out of hibernation. The third day of this Test match has been a joy to watch, especially the batting of this particular Englishman. This ground generates more cricket atmosphere than anywhere in the world, and in today's session the crowd revelled in it all.

It would seem as if England are left with just too much to do. Four hours of cricket in the last innings of a Test have been obtained before, of course, but not since 1949. Even if we cannot win, I shall be disappointed if we do not see some English batsmanship worthy of the occasion.

The wicket is now a good one, completely dry and looking a little better, but bowlers have been to the ground. Of course, Lillee's speed will extract some extra bounce, especially in the early evening. Hope Amies remains in a perilous position, for it is a fight under the arc light, wending his way to the ring. Through the crowd he has been prepared to bat and has insisted on doing so, expecting no favours from the English bowlers.

Unhappy for England, Walters, so unappreciated, looked hungry and chose this day to sparkle. He is a beautiful athlete and there is a touch of genius in his late swing. Success breeds success and a confident start could make all the difference.

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## Boxing

## Hope's attack earns him a draw but nothing more

West Berlin, March 15—West Germany's Richard Dage tonight retained his World Boxing Council light-middleweight title when he fought a draw over 15 rounds with the British challenger, Maurice Hope.

Hope, of West Indian birth but 15 years resident in Berlin, was the smaller of the two by four inches. He put in some fierce left-hand punches in the first round, which was marked by some brawling as the two boxers sized each other up.

In the second round Hope continued to come forward but was rocked back by two strong right hands to the head by Dage. A sharp left hand from Dage's supporters helped their man back into the contest, with shouts of "Dage, Dage, Dage".

In the fourth round Hope continued to move forward but his punches were to hurt the German. Dage countered with both hands, but Hope seemed to have the better of the early exchanges.

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some trouble getting past longer reach of the taller man.

In the sixth round the German height advantage began to tell. He got through with a series of left jabs and was repeatedly pushed back. He came up with both hands but was trouble and moving backwards.

In the seventh, eighth and ninth rounds Hope landed plenty of punches, but he did not break the German's blows. He was far more effective. The 1 opened quietly and the first punch came after 50 seconds. Dage sent Hope reeling with right to the body. The Britisher was in trouble, and his supporters helped their man back into the contest, with shouts of "Dage, Dage, Dage".

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## Sollas suffers his most conclusive defeat

Alan Richardson, 28-year-old

colliery welder from the Yorkshire village of Flixton, battered

Richardson, who has a record of eight rounds to win the British featherweight title at Leeds Town Hall last night.

Sollas, a brilliant prospect when first came on to the scene and British champion before his 21st birthday, was treated more uncomplacingly than at any time in his career. Richardson walked into him from the first bell and continued to do so for the rest of the bout.

Sollas was hit by a series of punches which came at him continuously from all angles. Richardson's punches were to hurt the German. Dage countered with both hands, but Hope seemed to have the better of the early exchanges.

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was all pressure, round after round, and Sollas was on the wrong end of it.

The immediate reward of £5,000 purse, far more than I have ever won, was a consolation. Richardson is the prospect of £5,000 purse, far more than I have ever won, was a consolation.

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## Columbus returns to the fray at Cirencester

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

The Queen's home-bred Columbus, on whom Captain Mark Phillips won the Badminton three-day event in 1974, returns to the fray at Cirencester Park on March 25-27 for the first time since he pulled the Achilles tendon off his right hind leg in the lead country hunt in the lead for the world championship at Burghley that September.

Columbus, by the late Sir Winston Churchill, was the first of the Queen's horses to be ridden by Phillips. He was one of the Queen's favourites and was ridden by Phillips in the first of his three appearances for the Queen's Cup at Burghley that September.

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PARLIAMENT, March 15, 1977

# Britain fighting for her life: 'We can no longer afford self-denigration'

## House of Commons

The Prime Minister is confident that President Carter will give a positive leadership to the world. American leadership is necessary and welcome. Mr James Callaghan made this clear at the end of a lengthy speech to the House on his recent visit to the United States and Canada. He was also confident that the American Administration's new ideas and initiatives were tempered with realism.

Mr Callaghan said: The President has set in hand two initiatives of number of different forms and it was stimulating to observe a positive approach to some longstanding international problems and a willingness to take a new look at the long-term objectives and how they should be achieved. We had no difficulty in identifying the major problems facing the Western world, and we shared in a very considerable degree, a common approach towards the way in which they should be tackled. The President spoke warmly of the special relationship between America and Britain, and it is my intention that the Government should work closely with his Administration.

We must also contribute to the maximum collaboration between the United States and the European Community, and the President made clear that he shares this purpose, and desires to see the strengthening of the Community. The President also stressed the importance of full consultation and cooperation with America's allies in the North Atlantic area, and I warmly welcomed this. During my talks with Prime Minister Trudeau, who has himself recently visited Canada, I was clear to learn that he agreed generally with this judgement.

In both Washington and Ottawa the emphasis of the discussions was on economic problems, including our aims and prospects for the Downing Street summit conference to be held in May.

We recognized that it would take a considerable time to reduce the present high levels of world unemployment and agreed on the high

priority we should give in this situation to the problem of unemployment among school leavers and among young people generally. We agreed that general protection could only serve to delay the world's emergence from the present economic recession.

I advanced the view that if the United States, as the largest trading nation, was unable to resist pressures for protectionism at home this would not only slow down progress in the negotiations, but would encourage others to follow.

President Carter and I agreed on the importance of adopting an understanding and constructive approach to the aspirations and needs of developing countries. President Carter and I discussed at length the subject of human rights, on which, as the House knows, the President feels deeply and has expressed his views in a forthright manner. It was clear that President Carter had given very careful thought to his approach to this matter, and he welcomed the speech made recently by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.

In the area of East-West relations we agreed that the adoption of a non-political approach to the Belgrade Conference and I was assured that the President would work closely with the Nine and with all their NATO partners with a view to a serious dialogue with the East at Belgrade. Europe need have no doubt that the new Administration shares a desire for improved relations between East and West, while maintaining adequate security.

We discussed the problems of nuclear non-proliferation and arms control, and the President attaches high priority. Both of us subscribe to the same objectives. We also discussed the situation in various parts of the world, in which we have a mutual interest in helping to create or maintain stability. On the future of Cyprus we welcomed the resumption of inter-communal talks at the meeting which is to take place shortly in Vienna.

On the Middle East, President Carter informed me fully of the United States' latest ideas on the matter and I emphasized the importance of keeping closely in touch with each other over developments in this area.

In addition to the general talk I had with President Carter about southern Africa as a whole, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary had detailed talks on Rhodesia and Namibia with Mr Vance.

President Carter confirmed that he was prepared to give his full support to our efforts to find a basis for a settlement.

I took the opportunity of emphasizing to the President our concern that Concorde should be allowed to land in New York. The President has indicated that he is in favour of a trial period.

I am confident that President Carter will give a positive lead to the West in areas where American leadership is necessary and welcome. I believe, on the fact that we should try to reduce arms expenditure if it is possible. The basic principle is that the form of arms expenditure, and that would be for later debate, but it is on these lines we should begin discussion on protectionism.

The Foreign Secretary will be taking with him and our stand is well known—any development which could arise from that which would be a break-through on this. We too regret that the Kissinger proposal did not come to us in a more timely fashion, to use her phrase, they were not acceptable to the people of Rhodesia as a whole.

The basic principle is that this should spring from majority rule and Mr Smith has indicated that he is ready for majority rule within Rhodesia. It is possible to come to an agreement and that is the kind of principle which the Foreign Secretary is looking for.

On protectionism, I had in mind that a number of the less developed countries are in great difficulties with their balance of pay-

ments and whether commercial banks will be able to continue lending to them is a matter on which there is some dispute. If not, there is a way in which they can balance their books unless they get to the super tranches of the IMF without some form of protection.

I mentioned one or two industries, like specialty steels, where we should very much regret an expansion of American protectionism.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Rochester, Selkirk and Peebles)—We welcome the statement and congratulations to the Prime Minister on the personal rapport he obviously established with the new American Administration.

Will he give a clear undertaking that he will not regard the eventual judgment on landing rights for Concorde as in any way a yardstick for British-American relations because they are much too important for that?

Will he give the House his views, based on the talks he had on industrial and economic problems?

What was President Carter's close and critical questioning he received at the hands of the American press and television? Did it reinforce in his mind the appalling picture of this country painted abroad in recent years?

Mr Callaghan—While I pressed Concorde strongly and will continue to do so, I do not want to go into the background of our broader relationship. It is right to do so, but I am sure that the House has a strong view that we have treaty rights which we do not expect to see overriden.

About the appalling picture on American television, it is appalling, but it is not true. It is a headline picture and one called 'The Kissinger picture'.

Mr Callaghan—The picture of the Kissinger picture is a headline picture and one called 'The Kissinger picture'.

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This country has gone through a period in which it has lost an Empire with an industrial system which was generating. There is a real understanding of the way the British people are facing this issue.

I hope that those who go abroad, to America, from either side of the House, will do their best to redress the picture.

Mr Alan Lee Williams (Rochester, Lab)—Did he have an opportunity to raise the Airborne Early Warning System (AWACS) problem, particularly in view of our problems with Nimrod and the requirement for a British performance?

Mr Callaghan—I discussed it but I would prefer not to go into details. Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion, C)—Objections to Concorde have the flavour of what once concerned the indirect protection of the kind we have been familiar with in many past cases. Did he press this point to President Carter?

On Rhodesia, guidance to the press indicates that the Foreign Secretary is going on a familiar tour visit and will not actually visit Rhodesia. Since the whole problem is around Rhodesia it would be good to hear the cast view of the Prime Minister.

Mr Callaghan—On Concorde, I am not sure what underlies the anxiety. We must consider that there are genuine environmental fears. Some of these are misguided but the environmentalists seem to be making the running.

On Rhodesia, I do not think it was the first time that a British Minister to visit that territory. 'Crises of Why?' and 'interruptions' because it is still a matter of internal security.

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to the statements made by Mrs Thatcher yesterday in the House. They will assist the understanding of our country's policies by Americans and others. Did he discuss human rights in Chile with the President?

Mr Callaghan—On speeches overseas, I always take the view held by Sir Winston Churchill. This was that he attacked his Government relentlessly at home and defended it abroad. But other times there are other attitudes, it is all a matter of taste.

Regarding Chile, there was a more general discussion about America's attitude towards the Caribbean and South America. The very extensive overriding American influence in that geographical area is in some ways a matter of concern to the President, and though that influence cannot be removed I think he wishes to see it exercised in a responsible manner.

Mr Phillip Whitehead (Dorset, North, Lab)—There was some discussion with Mr Trudeau on the possibility of a visit by President Carter to this country and Mr Callaghan described some of the events, if that took place, as those which could lead to a closer relationship between the two countries. Were any contingency plans discussed with Mr Trudeau should the clown get into the circus?

Mr Callaghan—We should try to keep President Amin a little off balance here. I do not know that clearly that he knows what the response should be. I prefer that he should be working a little off balance here. But the possibility of his visit has not altogether gone unnoticed.

Mr Greville Tanner (Leicester, West, Lab)—Would Mr Callaghan agree that the principles of the West, as elsewhere? Did he express to the American and Canadian leaders the indignation of the British people at the gross human rights in Uganda and of the

possibility of President Amin coming here? I think it is a worrying fact that the real position of this country is so distorted abroad. We have to get into a trend in which everything that is wrong is headlined as everything good is put at the bottom of the page.

Mr Callaghan—In these days we could afford to be a little more self-denigrating. We cannot afford it any more. We are fighting for our lives and are beholden to all of us to put across a fair representation of our country's position.

## Sterling, trade figures, production improving

The proceeds of the proposed gas price increase would be used for the benefit of gas consumers themselves, the Prime Minister said today. He said the House refused to confirm the increase that would be destroying part of the economic package as a whole.

Mr Reginald Kyte (Birmingham, Hall Green, C)—Will he hold a public meeting in Birmingham and invite housewives to come and tell him about the fantastic rise in prices, the fall in living standards and inflation running at more than 21 per cent, and ask them why the Government have undermined faith in the Prime Minister and by dictating a major tax on gas users?

Mr Callaghan—I would not hesitate to explain all these circumstances which must be regarded as a whole. As a result of the financial and other measures taken by the Government, confidence in sterling has been restored, the balance of payments is moving in the right direction, and the production of the last quarter has moved up by 1.5 per cent although I shall not fall into the error of the Opposition and imply that by four to get an annual figure.

The minimum lending rate for borrowing is well below what it was when we came into office. I would explain these matters and indicate to the housewives of Birmingham and everywhere else that the Government are taking policy stands as a whole and will bring us through to success.

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnes, Finchley, C)—While the Prime Minister rightly considers it important not to breach phase two of the pay code, is he nevertheless preparing for the Government to breach the price code in raising the price of gas, as they intend to do?

Mr Callaghan—This matter was discussed in the House yesterday and will no doubt be discussed again. There is no breach in this matter. The Government are not going to breach the price code in December and the Opposition did not take it up then. There has been neither a breach nor any cover action in this matter.

This is a matter which the industry—unlike what happened under the Opposition when they allowed it to get to such a point that prices were down artificially and

ran the nationalized industries into debt—like other nationalized industries, have been rescued from financial disaster and are now paying their way. The proceeds of this £100m will be used for the benefit of gas consumers.

Mr Thatcher—If the price code has been breached, why is the increase not allowable under the price code?

Mr Callaghan—The increase is not allowable under the price code within the rules that are laid down. (Concurs) While it is true that the increase is not allowable under the price code, it is a necessary part of the economic package as a whole.

We have brought this to the House and we shall ask the House for its confirmation of what we are doing. If the House confirms this, we shall be confirming that it will be a part of the economic package as a whole.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot, Nat)—Will the Prime Minister say that the increase in food prices has moved up by 1.5 per cent although I shall not fall into the error of the Opposition and imply that by four to get an annual figure.

Mr Callaghan—I agree this is a hard case to answer and yet it is in the nation's interest that once again we should have another wage round and wage settlement.

The Opposition will take their view but the truth is that sterling declined in value last autumn. As a result of that, food and other commodity prices have gone up very much. We are beginning to see an end of that.

This will work its way through by mid-year according to our forecasts. After that we expect because of the recovery in sterling the rate of inflation to diminish rapidly and substantially.

If that is so, if we get another wage round it will be well worth the fight as hard as I can—whether it be the Opposition or anybody else. We are beginning to see an end of that.

We have a real chance during the next 12 months. I intend to fight as hard as I can—whether it be the Opposition or anybody else. We are beginning to see an end of that.

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## A good case for review of mortgage tax relief

The trouble with mortgage interest tax relief was that it topped it had just grown, and there was a need to review it. The Prime Minister said at question time.

Mr Robert McClelland (Brentwood and Orsett, Essex, C)—Does the Prime Minister agree that the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party that the maximum mortgage upon which tax relief could be claimed was reduced from £25,000 to £15,000? Is this because the price of houses has gone down, or the influence of the left has?

Mr Callaghan—The National Executive Committee has put forward a series of interesting proposals. I shall be discussing them this morning, and I shall say what I think.

As regards the £25,000 maximum limit placed on the mortgage, it has stood over the last two years, since the limit was fixed, the price of houses in that range has not varied much. It is therefore a figure which is pretty much stationary.

Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann (Merton, Mitcham and Morden, Lab)—There are many sectors of owner-occupiers who receive far too little help at present, particularly those who are buying for the first time, and those who have bought in the last five years, as well as retired people who are unable to afford to pay for their mortgages.

Mr Callaghan—He raises the important point of the position of those people who are first-time buyers, as well as others who have moved from their residences because of their work.

The trouble with our mortgage interest relief is that it is a good case for reviewing it. As the housing finance review is doing so, we shall be looking at it. It is taking longer than I had hoped. It is complex. We have to balance equity and fairness in looking at these matters and we are not like to rush it when the system has grown up over a long period.

Mr Callaghan—I am sure that we should devote to owner-occupiers and council tenants on the lower end of the scale some of the subsidies going at present to other groups of house purchasers, some of whom are receiving over £40 a week in housing subsidy.

Mr Callaghan—I cannot add to what I have said. As to what extent, and at what levels mortgage interest tax relief should be given, this matter will be left to the Finance Committee, which I do not wish to anticipate.

Plans delayed for larger 'Hansard' pages

A Government motion to alter Parliament's printing arrangements has been delayed for more than 175 votes to 83.

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Mr Norman St John-Stevas, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said that the closure of this department—local authorities were to be given the opportunity of getting a look at collection.

Mr Callaghan—That would be true if it were the case. Although we are proposing to make changes, we are not proposing to abolish the Hansard. We hope to have a conference with representatives of the House of Commons and the House of Lords to discuss the matter.

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## Review of future of British Leyland

Whatever happened now, a review of British Leyland's plan for 1977 would be needed, but how drastic it would be would depend on the speed with which full production was restored, the Prime Minister said at question time.

Mr Charles Morrison (Devizes, C)—Had asked—in the light of the unfortunate fall in the volume of visible exports last month, much of the credit for last month's surplus must have been due to the fact that the Government had agreed with British Leyland that if—when the factories and workshops open on Monday—there is no production, they will be regarded as having discharged themselves.

This is unprecedented and Mr Morrison said that he would like to see the Government's full support of the Opposition and everybody else.

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Mr Callaghan—The fall-off in the volume of exports last month was to some extent due to the fact that the Government had agreed with British Leyland that if—when the factories and workshops open on Monday—there is no production, they will be regarded as having discharged themselves.

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## Search for way to keep library art to the regions

The Minister for the Arts (Lord Davies of Hereford, Lab)—The Arts Council is trying to see if there is a way in which the Evelyn Library could be kept together, but in law there was nothing the Government could do to prevent the closure of the library.

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Mr Callaghan—I am sure that we should devote to owner-occupiers and council tenants on the lower end of the scale some of the subsidies going at present to other groups of house purchasers, some of whom are receiving over £40 a week in housing subsidy.

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## Ship repairers removed from Bill

The Lords amendments to delete the ship-repairing companies from the Bill have been agreed. The Bill will now proceed to the House of Commons.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab)—The Bill will now proceed to the House of Commons.

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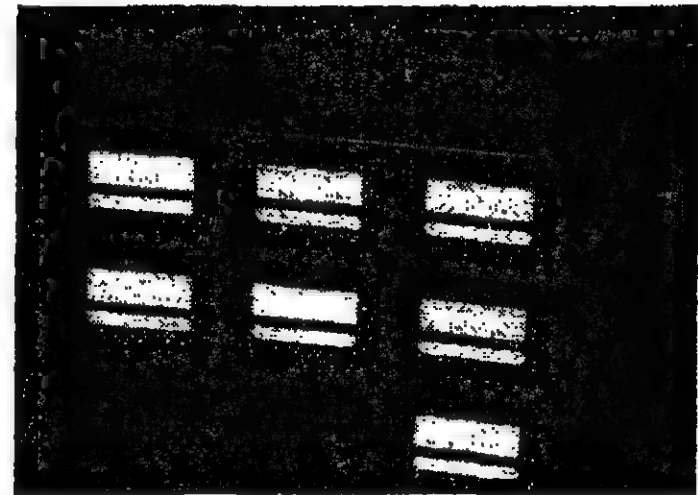
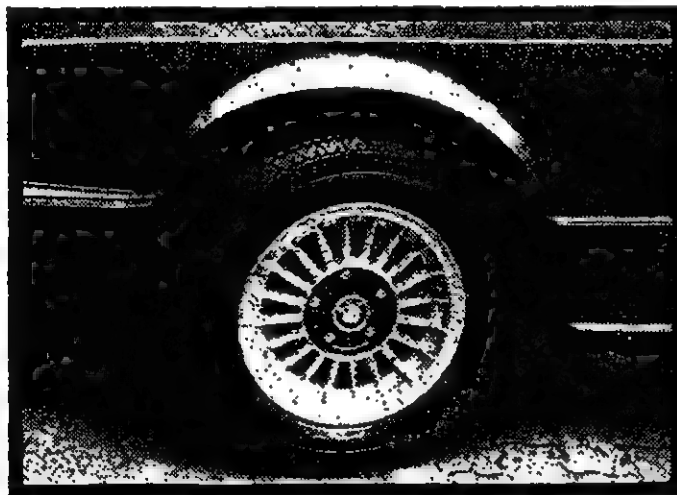
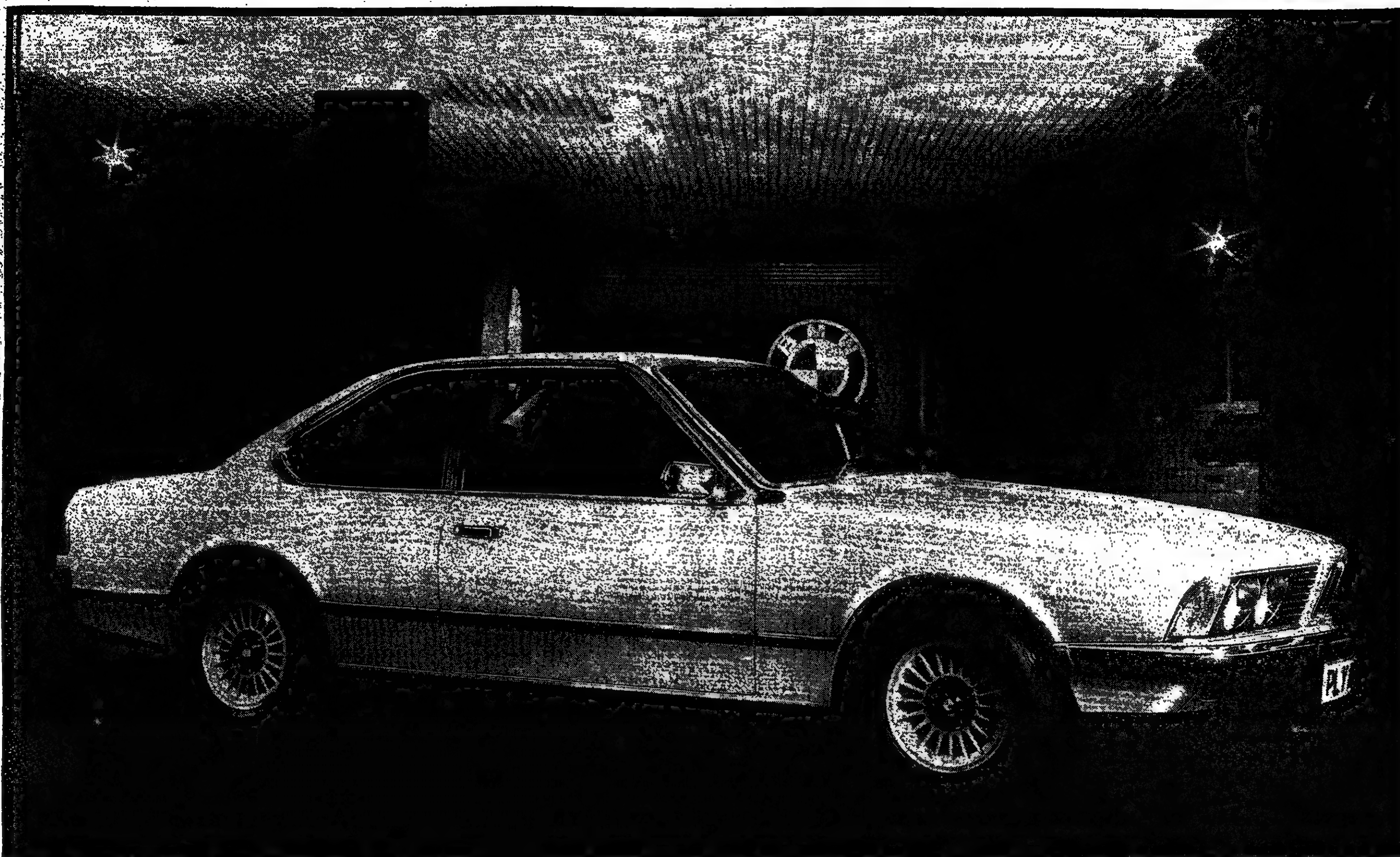
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# The new BMW 633 Coupé reflects the qualities that make people successful.



The 633 Coupé will inspire its owner with a very particular feeling and a reassurance that even in these difficult times things could be worse.

There are several reasons for this. The Coupé has a unique style, an elegant look of purpose and power. The 3.3 litre, six cylinder engine produces 200bhp. Maximum speed is 134mph. Yet the ride is so effortless that even when the Coupé is being driven fast all you're aware of is the ease with which the power is handled.

Unlike some cars called 'Coupés' the 633 has room to spare for four adults. The leather and velours seats are biomechanically designed for comfort and real support. The front two are not only adjustable for angle and reach but also for height. This ensures that there's plenty of

legroom available in the back.

Detailed attention has been given to the driving position. As with the seat, the steering and pedal positions are adjustable. The control panel 'wraps around' the driver to give the quickest and easiest display and operation. All round visibility is excellent. The feeling the driver has is one of complete command of car and road—a feeling justified by the car's performance.

The balance of speed, handling and comfort is complemented with features like speed-related power steering, electric windows and mirror, tinted glass, head restraints and automatic or manual transmission as standard.

The Coupé also incorporates several highly sophisticated safety systems such as the

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Bernard Levin

# The family who chose the mercy of the cruel sea

How peculiarly vile must a system of government be if citizens compelled to live under it are willing to trust their lives to a couple of toy boats

There was a little-regarded news item the other day, about a woman and her 15-year-old son being found floating in a collapsible dinghy in the Baltic; her husband and their two daughters, aged 12 and 14 respectively, had been in a similarly frail vessel, but had drowned.

The cruel sea, you may think, up to its usual tricks. The family's boat had been swamped; they had taken to the dinghies which, prudent sailors, they had been careful to have aboard, dividing the family as they had no doubt planned against the possibility of just such a disaster: probably they had had regular lifeboat drill, joking as they did so. And now the grey, impersonal waves had shown themselves stronger than all the precautions, and the world contained one more widow and one more fatherless child. And that is really all there is for any outsider to say about it.

Or rather: almost all. For there is an extra dimension to the story, which it now behoves me to disclose. The family had not taken to their rubber dinghies from a sinking yacht; they had embarked in those very craft. And they were not indulging a taste for hazardous sport or putting their children through some kind of Orward Bound toughening process. They were not seeking fitness, relaxation or sunken treasure; what they were after was freedom. For they were a family of East Germans, from the western marches of the Soviet Empire, and they were trying to get away from it. The mother and the son died; the father and the two daughters did not. We record a 40 per cent success

rate (or, if we are of a pessimistic tendency, a 60 per cent failure-rate), and pass on. We pass on first of all, fairly obvious reflection. How peculiarly vile must a system of government be, if citizens compelled to live under it are willing to trust their lives and the lives of their children, in a challenge to the might of a northern sea, to a couple of toy boats? (If your first thought is that they were foolhardy not to wait until the weather was better, have a second; when the weather around the shores of Soviet Germany is such as to make the waters navigable without risk, the State waters are in permanent alert for any kind of boat putting out to sea, be it never so innocent in appearance. Only when it is very dangerous indeed to sail such seas is there any chance of the vigilance being sufficiently slack to offer any chance of escape.)

I ask how vile a regime must be if its citizens are compelled to take such chances to get away from it. For consider: the Soviet imperialists have been in occupation of Eastern Germany for a third of a century; an entire generation has been born, and grown up, and created another, under Soviet rule.

They have never read any permitted printed word, never heard or seen anything on their radio or television programmes, never learnt anything in school or university, never had any public information at their disposal, never come across any relaxation, that had not been carefully searched and screened, by people highly

skilled in the appropriate techniques, to ensure that not a single word of truth about the world, or communism, or their Soviet masters, or their own puppet-government, would get through. What is it that this family felt, and that drove all of them to danger and most of them to death, came from their lifetime's experience of the delights of communism.

The likelihood is insufficient to keep seventeen million people indefinitely delighted is made plain by the episode I have recounted. But it is made plainer by the fact that the regime lives its western borders, land and sea, with guards and guns, electrified fences and lethal mines, watchtowers and dogs and pursuit vessels, all intended not to keep invaders out but to keep the regime's citizens in.

When the Berlin Wall was built I thought, and I have never seen reason to revise my view, that the standard excuse

for it among Soviet apologists in the West—that it was justified because of the "brain drain" of East Germans—was the most squalid item the fellow-travellers' repertoire had ever encompassed. Students of such matters will have noticed that in recent years the line has changed: now we are expected to believe that it is an immensely wealthy society, its citizens reveling in a standard of living that puts Stockholm and California to shame. Some might say that if the new line is true, the Wall has become something of an anomaly, but I have not detected many suggestions that it should now be demolished, and I have even less expectation that it actually will be.

In the end, we have to turn to that much (and ill) used word, sanity. It is possible, by an effort of the moral imagination, to put ourselves in the position of that family, so that we can see the

beach from which they set out, feel their hearts beating with fear and resolution, look upon the sea that faced them, entrust our minds to their bodies, to a bubble of air and a film of rubber, and set off with them into the darkness. Beyond that it would be indecent to follow them, to death and deprivation; and beyond that, it is unnecessary to follow them; two, at any rate, reached the freedom that is so familiar to us that most of us have no idea why it is so precious, and that some work day and night to stamp out. But if we can get far enough towards merging our feelings with the feelings of a family to whom death was an acceptable alternative to communism, we shall understand two things it is important to understand—more important, it may be, than we know.

First, we shall be virtually immune to all the lies, all the excuses, all the apologies, all the breathlessly enthusiastic travelogues, that the servants and fellow-travellers of totalitarianism pour out incessantly. Next time one of them is telling us that the system is the course different from ours, but in its way valid, and that it seems to work, and that anyway the people who live under it seem to like it, all we have to do is to close our eyes; then we can hear the waves lapping, feel the cold, see the darkness, and remember that the waves, the cold, the darkness and the death, were considered preferable to communism. And in a single moment the whole edifice of deceit will vanish like a nightmare at dawn.

That is one half of what we

may gain from the exercise in empathy that I have proposed. The other half is even more important. By trying to feel what that family felt, we can remind ourselves of what is in some ways the most wonderful and extraordinary of all the attributes of man, the inextinguishable spark of freedom in his soul. For what did that family know of freedom? East Germany went direct from Nazism to Communism; today, citizen of that repulsive hellmouth would have to be 65 to have lived as an adult in a free society; a Soviet citizen would, of course, have to be much older. And yet in both there are men and women who divine what freedom is, though all their lives they have been denied it, and seek it though they perish in the search.

So the story of the family that fled together and died apart can teach us something of enduring value; which is that the most valuable thing of all is also the most enduring. Just as science reaches us that may change its form, is ultimately indestructible, so we can see that at the core of man's being is a rock that, though it can be cracked, scorched, crushed, ground to powder, cannot be made to disappear; and it was upon that living rock that five human beings set sail into the Baltic. And eloquent testimony to its eternal strength is given by a woman and her son who live now in Federal Germany; and by a man and his two daughters who sleep now beneath the Baltic waves.

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## Unions must act for the members, not the Government

March 5 marked the beginning of the fourth year since the Conservatives lost office following defeat in what was widely regarded at the time as their "confrontation" with the unions. On that anniversary, the largest gathering to date of active Conservative trade unionists was held in Nottingham and the importance which the party attaches to their views was witnessed by the presence of Mrs Thatcher.

After the February election, many people feared that the Conservatives would react to defeat by refusing to listen to the unions' views, by leaving the blame for the country's ills at the door of Congress House and by setting out on a divisive course of antipathy and hostility towards trade union aims and structures. Instead, the party has sought to listen to what trade union leaders have had to say, at local as well as national level and to argue constructively with them; to point out to the unions that their proposals, though laudable, are not in the national interest, and may not be in theirs; and to provide encouragement and assistance to the many people who are especially important in the national interest, and who want to see these views reflected in their union's policies and leadership, while reassuring those who have deep rooted objections to belonging to the labour movement that their right to work will be protected.

I believe now that there was a widespread feeling that the difficulties with the unions were symptomatic of a failure to get the balance right, and to get the balance right, we need to want government to achieve two things in their dealings with the unions. On the one hand we want the Government to govern and not hand over their duties and responsibilities to the TUC, and on the other we want them to concede union demands if these seem justified and if we are being inconvenienced by the effects of industrial action.

It is very difficult for any government to get the balance right between the two demands, with complete success. Paradoxically the close ties between the Labour Party and the trade unions may actually make it more difficult for them to get the balance right.

They are torn between demonstrating independence from the unions and reviving the historical links. Thus, it was a Labour Attorney General who, much to the horror of the TUC, invoked a widely ignored wartime regulation in 1945 and prosecuted seven dockers for going on strike; whilst 26 years later, when the Post Office workers threatened to commit a plain breach of the law, many believe that his successor refused to act because of his fears of industrial action which could have undermined the present contract relationship between the Government and the TUC.

The social contract is effectively the price paid by Labour's leaders to win back the union support alienated by the last demonstration of independence when the 1966 Government adopted pay limits and proposed legal reform of union activities. Power to decide policy, first in Opposition and later in office, was handed over to the TUC/Labour Party Liaison Committee and their proposals—ranging from the regulation of the terms of entry to the NEC to the establishment of the British National Oil Corporation—were put into effect whatever the views of Parliament, the employers or the nation.

Fortunately such an approach cannot survive. The pursuit of socialist policies is costly and economic reality, which first forced the unions to accept pay limits, is now making the Government pay less heed to the advice of the Liaison Committee. There is no prospect of the latest proposals for the "bottoming out" of the £1,000 a year to the National Enterprise Board, setting up a National Transport Planning Authority or introducing new social benefits—being implemented in present circumstances. The unions are faced with the dilemma of going along with the Government's new policies of spending cuts and industrial incentives at the risk of alienating their members or of responding

## A new script for the Rhodesia saga?

And it came to pass, that David hastened, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistines. . . . The decision of the Foreign Secretary to make a tour of Southern Africa next month, marks the opening of a new chapter in the long serial on Rhodesia.

Where so many stalwart champions have failed—Mr Ivor Richard being merely the latest heavyweight to go down—can Dr David Owen succeed?

Well, let us admit at the start that no one, in Whitehall or Washington, has any very clear idea at present about how to settle the Rhodesian problem. After so many attempts, so many words, so many travels across the continent of Africa, the prevailing feeling is one of purgation.

Nevertheless, the Carter administration wants to make an effort in Africa. This is partly because the President feels a strong commitment to helping the people of Rhodesia and Namibia attain their human rights, partly a strong sense of obligation to his black constituency back home. The administration wants to be seen, not just standing there, but doing something—but what?

If there was a temptation in London, among some members of the Cabinet, to pass up the legal responsibility for Rhodesia on the ground that Britain had done all that could be reasonably expected, the American enthusiasm quenched it quickly. It was made clear that Britain was expected to go on in pursuit of a settlement.

It follows from this that nothing will be ventured without American cooperation, in the fullest sense. Dr Kissinger, master of the diplomatic game, that he was, did after all drop the British in the stew, by claiming to have got African approval for his plan, when all that had happened was a few rapid assurances that he was being supported by the British over the telephone. In future Anglo-American cooperation will be tighter.

There has, moreover, already been one most significant development since the Carter team took office. Mr Smith's plan for an interim settlement, some sort of deal with the "moderate" African chiefs, has been categorically rejected by the administration. With the House of Representatives' vote at the beginning of this week to reject the ban on Rhodesian chrome, Mr Smith and his colleagues must be

aware that Washington is serious.

Mr Smith had been hoping that the South African would persuade the Americans to back his internal solution. That option seems closed. In any case, Bishop Muzorewa, whom Mr Smith hoped he could lure over to his side, left no doubt that such an approach was unacceptable. It could only work on conditions which all the African nationalists could endorse.

Mr Smith still wants a settlement, on the lines of the Kissinger plan, though he obviously considered it as a way of maintaining Rhodesian Front supremacy. Certainly he has not given any real hint that he appreciates that the plan has now been superseded. Moreover, despite optimistic reports about killing terrorists, there is some sign that the military strain is taking its toll in Rhodesia, and that the security forces are becoming very stretched.

At the same time, the Namibian question is coming up fast, and may well take precedence over negotiations with Rhodesia. The talks in Turnhalle have produced a draft constitution for an interim government in Namibia, which the South West African People's Organisation, operating outside the country, totally rejects. As the West, indeed the UN as a whole, is committed to full independence for Namibia, this is likely to cause friction with South Africa, at the very time when Dr Vorster's support is needed in budging Mr Smith.

Dr Owen, rightly, is not prepared to accept a "trade off" between Namibia and Rhodesia, but believes that a solution must be found for each country on its merits. The link between the two, in time and well as geography, may be awkward.

In the light of all this, it is not easy to prescribe what the right policy would be. The best thing, the British and Americans conclude, is to keep the dialogue going. Hence the decision by Dr Owen to visit Southern Africa. He comes to the problem fresh, as he says, and believes that in any job there is a substitute for seeing things for yourself, to get to know the man behind the policy. He is not going to Salisbury despite yesterday's invitation, but may see Mr Smith in Cape Town. Talks about talks are better than talks about war.

David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

## How Bullock proposals could harm British industry

Supporters of the Bullock majority report repeatedly cite the West German workers' directors as justification for the Bullock proposals but neither Bullock, nor anyone else has spelled out fully the fundamental differences between the German system and the British one.

The likening of Bullock to the German system is invalid for two reasons: First—the German industrial participation system is democratic and has been very carefully constructed from the bottom up over a period of more than 50 years. Bullock, however, without there first being in existence a proper participation sub-structure throughout British industry, would force onto all our major companies, from the top, theoretical and untried procedures, against the will of managers and boards. These procedures are undemocratic, divisive and patently impractical since the idea is to throw off boards, directors whose proven value has earned their promotion to the board and replace them with men whose only qualification is that they stand in favour with their union. (In my own company 14 highly valued and experienced directors would lose their board appointments, including a Swiss who has devoted 20 years of his life to the promotion of British exports on the Continent.)

Secondly the comparison pays no attention to the major differences in the legal, trade union, and political systems of Germany and Britain, and it is vital for the future of our industries that their disparities be made abundantly clear.

Could not work effectively

Under Bullock, a committee of shop stewards could simply nominate directors and replace them on the basis of "Buggins's turn next".

Further, the two-tier board system provides freedom for the managing director and the management board, supported by a strong works council, to give a company the freedom to run its business as it sees fit, free from interference. The supervisory board can fire the managing director but it cannot give him orders.

Worker directors in Britain, in their capacity as trade union officials, would have an immediate legal right to participate in legal proceedings which are unknown and unparalleled in Germany or any other country.

There are many other features without which the German system could not work effectively. Here are some of them:

- (a) There are only 16 industrial unions in Germany as against 483 in Britain of which 111 are affiliated to the TUC.
- (b) With very few exceptions, there is only one union per company. For example, ICI has 24 unions in Britain but only one in Germany.
- (c) Agreements between employers and trade unions are legally binding and enforceable.
- (d) Strikes are illegal unless 75 per cent of the membership

has voted in favour in a secret ballot.

(e) Union membership is voluntary. Closed shops are illegal because they contravene the principles of human rights in the Constitution.

(f) The unions must be independent of any ties to a political party or organization.

(g) Strikes, even when approved by 75 per cent of the membership, are illegal if they are in breach of a collective agreement or individual contract of employment; not for the purpose of adjusting working conditions, but against some other "sympathy" strikes; called before conciliation procedures have been exhausted; in furtherance of political aims; conducted with intent to cause loss to the employer "in violation of public morals". This could arise if, for example, essential services in a community were not maintained; or the aim was to induce an employer to dismiss an employee who refused to join a trade union.

It must be emphasized again that the key to participation in Germany is the works council, not worker directors, and I cannot do better than quote the personnel director of Audi Motor Car Company, lecturing in Harrogate to the Institution of Personnel Managers.

At the start of his lecture he said he had been talking previously to some of the people at the conference, and he felt that many people were expecting him to talk about supervisory boards in Germany in the framework of participation. He said he did not intend to discuss supervisory boards at all. They had nothing to do with participation in Germany because participation meant works councils.

Members of the works council are bound by law to secrecy in regard to all company activities matters which the employer has expressly stated to be confidential. There are sanctions against any breach of confidence.

The employer and the council are not allowed by law to exercise a veto, or lock-out, against each other which might prejudice normal working or industrial peace. Both sides must refrain from any political activity inside the establishment.

Bullock refers to European experience with worker directors but carefully omits the

fact that in every case the shareholders' representatives retain control of the board. Otherwise investment, particularly foreign investment, would dry up. If the shareholders' representatives could be outvoted, as they could under Bullock, the value of the investment could be reduced or even withheld altogether, and the value of shareholders' property lowered in other ways; or, as the minority report put it: "By contrast, we doubt very much whether overseas investors would develop their operations in the UK if their plans could be frustrated at any time by their being outvoted by a majority of employee-elected representatives and co-directors who might have been appointed by a Government agency."

I have heard already of a major American investment in Britain which has been put off because of the possibility of Bullock coming into force. Therefore, the sooner the Government makes clear that in the event of legislation shareholders' representatives will retain control of the board the better for foreign investment in the United Kingdom.

Britain's prime requirement

However, if the Bullock Report could result in German-type works councils (or, as I prefer to call them, employee councils) being set up throughout British industry, this would be a worthwhile and major advance, as I know from 11 years' experience of running a company in Germany. This is the prime requirement for the situation in Britain.

With our multiplicity of unions, the difficulty is to have an employee council if some unions refuse to sit down with others—not to mention non-union employees. Yet somehow or other this must be brought about if industrial participation is to make sense and grow soundly.

To foster worker directors onto unitary boards by law would be to set back British industry. A recent market research survey poll showed that even 79 per cent of trade unionists are against the compulsory imposition of worker directors.

Sir Emmanuel Kaye  
The author is chairman of Lansing-Bagnall Ltd.

editorial matter, for nothing. But they got the National's listings in a muddle on March 6, so the theatre asked for the substitution of the simple instruction which appeared on March 13.

The situation will be righted by the disappearance from the daily paper listings of reference to the Sunday papers—though the full listing does still appear in the other end of the paper, if readers of *The Sunday Times* pay any regard to the views of their theatre critic, there cannot be much at the National that they want to see.

about the precise proportion of one to one and a half, and supposed that he felt he owed a minimal tribute to Caesar compared with St Enoch. Did the latter feel that his long and devoted service to Caesar had been successful and worthwhile?

St Enoch: "No politician at the end of or at any stage of his career believes that he has succeeded. He lives with other people and finds them formidable for living through a particular period."

He said that the antithesis between God and Caesar was a false one, because Caesar is a creature of God; and he supposed the bit about rendering unto God of being an interpolation. Christ's answer to the tribulation was more devastating if you put a full stop after "the things that are Caesar". They agreed to resume the dialogue in six years either at St Mary's or in a higher place.

Having previewed the election for a new chairman of Democrats Abroad on Monday, I can now announce the result. Elwood Rickless, a lawyer whom I described as a conservative, but who says he is "in the same liberal and humane tradition as Carter" took the honours after a second ballot.

Saints alive

St Enoch and St Mung, the two most popular lay preachers in Christendom, yesterday resumed the dialogue in the twin pulpits of St Marylebone Church, that they had postponed without coming to a decision six years ago. The theme was God and Caesar (relative duties owed to each). Before a rather more than capacity congregation of two angel archangels, Powell and Mugeridge, danced an elegant minuet on the point of a pin to music that was more religious than secular.

St Enoch averred that the interval since they last preached together had been a long, hard six years both in Caesar's world and for Christians. St Mung was curious

## The Times Diary

Standing up to the pressures

It is a coincidence that Grace Wyndham Goldie's book about the influence of television on politics should be published tomorrow, in the week in which there have been allegations that the BBC has encouraged IRA terrorists. The criticism of the BBC arose from a *Tonight* programme this month in which two men complained that they had been tortured by Ulster police.

Mrs Wyndham Goldie says much in her book about the needs for television and the press to resist pressure to present only the Government's side of a contentious issue. And yesterday, when I spoke to her in her flat, book-lined Kensington flat, she made the point again in relation to the *Tonight* controversy.

"I did not see the programme," she said, "but from what I have read I would not have been disappointed of it. Always there is pressure from people in authority to have only their views noted."

"Surely the whole business of journalists, including tele-

vision journalists, is to put over facts as they see them, regardless of what precise effect they may have." She would make an exception only in the case of an incident like a kidnapping, where it was sometimes justifiable to suppress a report to gain a clear, precise and limited objective.

"But you can't, over a long period, say: 'Don't put out anything which goes against our policy'."

Mrs Wyndham Goldie, whose new book is called *Facing the Nation*, speaks with the authority of a former head of BBC television talks and current affairs, a post from which she retired in 1965. During her career of nearly 30 years with BBC television, there was one example of the BBC succumbing to pressure to conform to the Government's line.

This was the Suez affair of 1956, in which the late Sir Anthony Eden, then Prime Minister, became furious at the BBC's insistence that the views of those opposed to the Suez

landings should be aired on radio and television, and even on the External Services. Mrs Wyndham Goldie's involvement was in the question of whether to allow Hugh Gatskell, leader of the Opposition, to reply to Sir Anthony's explanation of the landings.

Long memoranda—the favourably received communication at the BBC, to judge from the book—flew around and between Broadcasting House and Lime Grove. Anxious reference was made to the "side memo" of 1947 which, until succeeded by a further side memo in 1963, had the authority of the holy scripture in matters relating to political broadcasting. In the end, the BBC defied Sir Anthony's threats and allowed Gatskell to make a television broadcast—though by the time he did so the Government had already decided to accept American pressure for a cease-fire.

Mrs Wyndham Goldie believes that politicians still do not take television sufficiently seriously, in spite of the fact that people's impressions of a politician are nowadays based mainly on what they see of him or her on the screen. Labour people take it more seriously than Conservatives—possibly because they feel they do not get fair showing in the newspapers.

"Harold Wilson", she said,

"took it very seriously indeed, but I didn't think he used it well because, like most politicians, he saw television as a tool to use rather than as a means of giving evidence to the voters."

"Like most ministers he liked to speak with the apparatus of office around him. That's why they like to speak from Downing Street rather than come down to the studio for an interview."

She is uneasy about James Callaghan's plans to answer viewers' questions on *Nationwide* next week. "Fire-side chats and phone-in programmes are terribly misleading to the public," she says, "and I don't like the public being misled."

"They're misleading because they create an expectation in the public of the kind of simple communication that politicians can't give. Politicians couldn't and shouldn't tell the absolute truth about questions they're asked over the phone."

"There should be some way of saying at the beginning: 'Look, you may ask what you like but in practice the politician will only answer what they want to'."

Mrs Wyndham Goldie, a pleasant woman of uncertain age who worries a lot about seeming pompous, is enjoying launching her book especially when it involves visiting her

"I'm going for an interview at Lime Grove this week," she said. "The girl who rang me to fix it said, 'Lime Grove, that's the place to go to.' I said I didn't think that would be necessary."

The Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in 1975 took place in Jamaica, not in Ottawa as I reported yesterday.

What's on?

An alert reader in Scotland has spotted a Catch-22 in the play listings for the National Theatre in recent days. Looking them up in *The Sunday Times*, he found the simple phrase "For repertoire see daily press."

So he waited until *The Times* arrived on Monday and found a sketchy listing, with the phrase "For repertoire see daily press" in the NT's full rep in Sunday press.

At the National, I was told that the confusion arises from a boycott on the part of the Scottish *The Sunday Times* organized by the Society of West End Theatres (SWET)—surely one of the touchiest trade bodies in existence. The old rule of five free lines and 85p a line there after has been increased to £2.25 a line, still with five free



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## END OF THE RYDER PLAN

British Leyland is the paradigm of the problem that affects so much of British large-scale industry. At the same time it presents a massive political problem for the Government and for Mr. Scammon and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. Few union presidents can have been given a more disrespectful hearing from their own members than that accorded last Friday to Mr. Scammon, when he tried to put the cold facts to his toolroom workers at the mass meeting at Birmingham. In the most direct sense, the authority of the union is under challenge from this group of its higher paid workers. For the Government, the Leyland crisis is by far the severest test to date of its industrial strategy.

Two quite separate issues have come together in the present crisis. The first is related to incomes policy and its possible extension after July. The second concerns the continuation of British Leyland in its present form. As for the first, if it is a depressing characteristic of the British economy that it pays low wages and delivers low productivity, the way out cannot lie through continual wage restraint. A return to free collective bargaining, provided that it is in the context of continued monetary restraint and a refusal by the Government to underwrite

irresponsible settlements, is now fully due.

As for British Leyland itself, no government could contemplate the sudden end of mass car production by British Leyland. Apart from the immediate effects on unemployment, the direct impact on the component industry and the indirect cut in spending power would cripple the economies of the Midlands and of the Cowlsey-Oxford area. The effect on the trade balance would be similarly unacceptable. To that extent, the militant toolroom workers are right in thinking that the Government's room for being tough in the short run is limited. Against that, however, the point has now been reached where the future of the car division of British Leyland has to be thought out anew. It is no longer possible for the Government, or the National Enterprise Board, to continue on the basis that the Ryder plan for British Leyland provides a credible framework for day-to-day, or long-term, decisions. The present dispute has brought matters to a head, but this judgment would now hold even if full production were resumed everywhere in British Leyland tomorrow.

Whether Lord Ryder's plan for British Leyland ever had a realistic chance of being fulfilled is now an academic question. It was based on the assumption

that British Leyland would be able to generate cash to match government money for new investment programmes at a level only possible if it became the most profitable car manufacturer in Europe. It was known at the time that there was substantial overcapacity in the car industry in this country. Then it looked as if Chrysler (UK) was in the weakest position. In the intervening period there has been no evidence that British Leyland can perform better than Ford, Vauxhall or Chrysler. Thus, while closure of British Leyland in any immediate sense is economically impossible, future policy towards the group will now have to be based on two principles. The first is that the mass car division should not be allowed to drag down the more effective operations, such as the trucks and buses, the special products and the quality cars. The unified structure of British Leyland should, therefore, now be reviewed. The second is that all new investment in the project should be shelved, until there is positive proof that the car division can effectively produce its present range of volume car models. The Government and Lord Ryder will have a political difficulty in conceding publicly that the Ryder plan is now a dead letter. But there can be no further point in fudging the issue.

## THE BBC'S IRISH TROUBLES

The BBC perceives Northern Ireland as a part of the kingdom where communities and governments are in conflict, and where there is not to be found that degree of political consensus which alone makes possible the operation of democratic institutions without coercion. It sees the duty of public service broadcasting in such conditions as being to report and reflect the conflict in all its manifestations. It sees both communities as part of its constituency, and to preserve its credit with both it must not become the partisan of either. This way of looking at its role reinforces the BBC's instinct to maintain its autonomy and never allow itself to become an instrument of political authority.

Mr. Airey Neave, the Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, perceives the province as "a part of the kingdom on the brink of civil war where the British Government is fighting a ruthless group of terrorists with Marxist aims". The detachment which the BBC displays leaves him with the impression that it is not really on the side of the civil power, a dereliction of its duty in the face of violent subversion of constitutional government.

Both those perceptions of Northern Ireland are valid. The turbulence which the province has suffered over the last eight years parades of both characteristics, one approximating to a state of political irreconcilability, the other to a state of war or at least a emergency. The attitudes expected of objective broadcasting or journalism in those two extremes are not precisely the same.

This double focus in which the conflict in Northern Ireland is held is part of the reason why the presentation of news and analysis from there is something exceptionally difficult to get right, and part of the reason why so much criticism now bears about the head of the BBC.

The BBC's own understanding of its role in Northern Ireland is altogether preferable to that towards which Mr. Neave's analysis seems to lead him. But his misgivings are not simply to be brushed aside. A state is a social organism. All its important working parts are implicated in its continuous striving for equilibrium. None can affect total detachment from that process. The BBC is not "above

the battle" in Northern Ireland, if only because what it does or does not do is part of the material of the conflict. It has to justify its conduct to itself and to others in terms of the general interest of the society of which it is such an important organ.

By his perception of the conflict as something like a state of war Mr. Neave is misled towards the conclusion that the public interest requires the BBC positively to assist the war effort, especially in the line of propaganda. In fact the general public interest is better served by the kind of objectivity and independence the BBC seeks to maintain. For it is only by adhering to that stance that the BBC—like a newspaper, but with the different impact of broadcasting—can well perform these useful functions: the forestalling of rumour by the rapid reporting of events; offering a source of news capable of commanding the trust of members of both communities; exposing the views and passions and personalities belonging to every party in the conflict; for the inspection of every other party; assisting people elsewhere in the kingdom towards a better understanding of the nature of the Irish impasse and a truer measure of its stubbornness; uncovering abuses by the forces of authority, and providing the check against abuses which the possibility of such disclosure constitutes.

It is sometimes suggested that all a newspaper or broadcasting organization needs to guide it along that path is a fully cultivated sense of news values and strict attention to professional practice in gathering and presenting the news. There were passages in the mostly convincing apology Mr. Richard Francis, the BBC Controller in Northern Ireland, gave as a Chatham House lecture last month which left an impression that that is his view of the matter. Other passages indicated that Northern Ireland is worked by the BBC with special criteria and with a great deal of attention to the likely consequences of what is to be broadcast.

So it should be. Broadcasting is as active as well as a reactive occurrence in any situation of conflict; and in conditions as extreme and lethal as those in Northern Ireland the broadcaster is not absolved of his duty to weigh the consequences of what

he does by close attention to standard professional practice. It is in that area of controversy that the screening of the *Tonight* programme of allegations of gross abuses by RUC interrogators has taken place.

The *Tonight* team came upon those allegations by chance. They checked them to a point at which they became satisfied with their authenticity. The RUC could offer no comment since the matters alleged were the subject of formal investigation not yet complete. After deliberation the BBC decided to go ahead, and the exceedingly damaging allegations were given wide currency. The RUC at the time were given notice from the Provisional IRA that their members would be picked out to be murdered. The consequences of the broadcast have been such as were to be expected. The RUC is shaken. Many of those who look to it in hope, and with much sympathy, as a defence against anarchy are furious. Politicians in Belfast and London have been hopping up and down. The provisionals have cunningly exploited the consternation. Mr. Mason has called on the RUC to expedite its inquiries into the allegations.

The BBC decided to go ahead without waiting for the result of the official investigation, and therefore precluded the RUC from challenging or commenting on the allegations, because of the gravity of the abuses alleged, because they introduced a suspicion of system at the interrogation centre, because its experienced staff was satisfied of the complainant's bona fides, because by then not to have gone ahead would have invited the charge of "suppression", and because it thinks the standard procedure for investigating complaints against the police takes inordinately long. All good reasons, but were they sufficient? What interest was served by publicizing the allegations then (instead of waiting, with the film in hand, until it could be seen how the police had handled the complaint) sufficient to outweigh the damage that has been done?

This was only one of many similarly difficult decisions which the BBC has had to take in its coverage of Northern Ireland where its record does it much credit. And if it did not get this one right that credit is not lost nor is its general approach invalidated.

beyond a punctilio once important. Where the plenipotentiary, Mr. Richard, could go with proposals a new Foreign Secretary can go with an open mind to make an assessment—as part of a total assessment to which his meetings with African leaders and to South Africa, must all contribute.

It would not be appropriate to include Rhodesia in the itinerary unless the United States concurred. But that could have been cleared. The Africans will have their objections, but they may well be more worried about African rather than white contacts. Dr. Owen could have made. (They probably regret their treatment of the Bishop already). Sooner or later an emissary will go to Salisbury. Dr. Owen is ensuring that when the time comes to operate, he will be relying on secondhand opinions of his patient's condition.

works while individual would be buyers showed their habitual cautious attitude towards the unfamiliar. Yours faithfully, ROBERT ATKINS, Director of Libraries, Sheffield City Libraries, Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield.

## Splitting the Treasury

From Dr. Jeremy Bray, MP for Motherwell and Wishaw (Labour). Sir, The renewed proposal to split the Treasury reflects continuing concern about whether it is doing its job. But to split the Treasury may divert attention from the problems of economic management, and the means of tackling them, as it did 13 years ago. Debate has concentrated on the control of public expenditure, where the failures and remedies have been obvious and unpopular. The greater failure and the more difficult problem have all along been in the making of economic policy, and in the back-ground of public expenditure.

The problem has spread out in different directions. On the one hand it has become impossible to make economic policy without public discussion and agreement, not only with the TUC, but more widely. On the other hand the slogans and gimmicks have been shown to be superficial, and the methods of economic analysis have become highly technical. If people were to argue about how far it is possible to cut the public sector, using five or six policy instruments, each with highly uncertain lags and effects, then they must be prepared to build, to test, and mathematically to throw around serious economic models, or to read the results of others doing so.

The requirement on the Treasury to publish forecasts and give public access to the Treasury model, which I moved and which was passed by Parliament against Treasury opposition, will help gradually to improve the quality of debate and of policy making. But as the Treasury have spent more on economic analysis and forecasting, ministers have become more critical about the errors of economic forecasts, and the implied errors of advice.

Ministers have expected too much, and officials have misdirected the apparatus. Officials should not say, "If you do this, that will happen", and then change their minds six months later when it does not. Instead ministers should say, "These are our priorities as between unemployment, taxation, public expenditure, taxation and the balance of payments. What should we do now, and why? How large adjustments should we expect to have to make, one way or the other, in six months and a year's time, with destabilizing the system? How far are our objectives likely to be fulfilled?" Such questions can be answered sensibly, even if the Treasury cannot do so at present.

For years the Treasury have neglected the development of the techniques of economic analysis. They failed to attend technical conferences. They did not read the more difficult technical literature. They failed to learn from best practice abroad. They are still falling further behind the state of the art. They had no defence against the wave of naive single equation monetarism which has swept into the vacuum left by the omission of all monetary influences from their economic analysis. As a result policy appears to be increasingly destabilizing the economy, and aggravating the prospects for inflation and unemployment, as well as for unemployment and public expenditure. Because of their interaction, and the need to maintain an overall view both of the economy and of policy making, I do not myself believe it would help to split the Treasury. The Treasury needs constructive technical leadership, not leucotomy.

Ministers have chosen steadily to resist the suggestions I have made over the years to improve the apparatus of economic management. I think they know better, leaving another generation of officials to implement them five years later. This may be the normal cultural lag, but it is an indulgence by the Treasury which we cannot afford. There are widespread suspicions among ordinary voters of incompetence and dogmatism in the Treasury. So I must ask Ministers to carry their public expenditure White Paper through the House of Commons on Thursday without my support.

Yours faithfully, JEREMY BRAY, House of Commons, March 14.

## Arabs at universities

From Mr. J. A. Morrell. Sir, I have occasion to visit regularly the United Arab Emirates. I am constantly impressed by the genuine friendship that exists there towards this country. All the more alarming, therefore, to learn that there is a serious bias in our foreign education programmes which is forcing more and more young Arabs to attend universities in Russia and the United States.

It would be hard to exaggerate the loss of influence that would follow if this trend were to persist. The complaints against our system are directed. We do not recognize the UAE certificates of education—even though these were instituted by a British Government. Students are therefore compelled to go through the whole gamut of British educational qualifications, *ab initio*, resulting in a seven or eight year period of further education. Secondly, the education curriculum is inappropriate only to a fully developed and industrialized economy. Although undoubtedly first-class in content it has limited application to emergent economies in which Arab graduates will have to find employment.

Thirdly it is suspected that private educational establishments have "cashed in" in a shameful manner by charging up to £4,000 for a one-month induction course prior to taking a regular student's place at some £800 p.a. This vested interest is suspected of being a factor against much-needed change.

I am not an educationist. I am a business man. I am not reporting a title-tattle, but serious comment from a number of good friends of Britain who feel that the situation has not so far been recognized but which, once recognized, will be corrected. Yours faithfully, J. A. MORRELL, 8 Crosby Square, ECI.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Prosecution of Ulster terrorists

From the Attorney General. Sir, In a well-publicized weekend speech at Abingdon, Mr. Airey Neave, Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland, stated that "the Attorney General seems to regard the security problems of Armagh as similar to those of Kent and Surrey" and that as a result "many big fish among the terrorists swim round with impunity". These remarkable allegations were unsupported by evidence and are wholly untrue. More important, however, they are likely to give aid and comfort to the terrorists and to create despondency amongst those who, often at great personal risk, seek to obtain and present to the courts the evidence required to prosecute terrorists to conviction.

The truth is that the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for Northern Ireland, for which I am responsible, works with conspicuous courage, efficiency and success. Mr. Neave's ill-judged words, spoken in the shadow of the DPP's staff, could well cause some members of that staff and other persons responsible for law and order in Northern Ireland to wonder whether the risks which they take are justified. Let me, therefore, repeat, so that nobody can be in any doubt, that terrorists who organize them, those who harbour them and those who, having information about them, fail to report it to the police, are all liable to heavy penalties; and that whenever evidence proper to be brought before a court of law is available, such persons will be prosecuted, with, as the results prove, a very high chance of conviction.

In a further reference to myself as Attorney General, Mr. Neave stated that "he refused to create a new offence of terrorism". Mr. Neave knows very well that responsibility for legislation lies with the Secretary of State and not with the Attorney General. Indeed, only two

days before making his speech in Abingdon, he criticized the Secretary of State in the House of Commons for rejecting the Opposition proposal for a specific offence of terrorism. Mr. Neave in reply said it absolutely clear that the proposal had been examined several times and had been rejected because it would add nothing to existing offences and would only serve the terrorists' interests by creating a distinction between "political" murders and other cold-blooded murders. The problem is not the range of offences nor the sufficiency of penalties. It is the obtaining of evidence to prove offences to the satisfaction of the courts. That is the function of the RUC and there are signs that it is enjoying a growing success. Mr. Neave's mis-statements do not help. Yours faithfully, SAM C. SILKIN, Attorney General, Royal Courts of Justice, WC2, March 15.

From Mr. Ian Gow, MP for Eastbourne (Conservative).

Sir, In his letter published today (March 14), the distinguished journalist Mr. Nick Ross, writes: "The number of us who have worked regularly as journalists in Northern Ireland know that civilians are regularly maltreated by some members of the security forces".

This statement is explicit about his knowledge of maltreatment, and implies that he has evidence to support it.

Mr. Ross does not tell us whether he has forwarded such evidence to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. He has a clear duty to do so—and at once.

If he is not willing to provide that evidence, then he should withdraw the grave allegations which he makes—and at once. Yours faithfully, IAN GOW, House of Commons, March 14.

### The professions and an incomes policy

From the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and others.

Sir, Discussions between the Government, the TUC and the CBI are now beginning to take place as a prelude to some form of pay restriction and taxation adjustment as part of the Government's policy for Stage III of an incomes policy. Once again, however, the Government's principal consultation will be restricted to bodies that do not represent the majority of those whose pay will be affected by the incomes policy.

Those professions to which we belong are themselves perhaps only a minority section of the community but nevertheless an important one—and one that has already suffered serious damage through the distortions, anomalies and even injustices of an incomes policy that has imposed unreasonable and disproportionate burdens upon it. It may be that this was neither foreseen nor intended but such is the certain result of a misguided policy without including the professions in the process of consultation.

An advanced level of education, a sustained period of training continuing long after the acquisition of formal qualification and the shouldering of heavy responsibility both to the consumer and to society generally have always been thought worthy of reward through the results of the present incomes policy have been quite the opposite. No responsible section of the nation, and certainly not the members of our professions, would expect to be exempted from making sacrifices in the fight against inflation. We do not even hope for equality of sacrifice in a desperate situation where some element of rough justice is inescapable if decisions are to be taken and endless arguments are to be avoided. But if the national interest is to be served there must be a reasonably fair balance of contribution.

This is not the occasion to set out detailed calculations of the relative decline in the standards of living of professional people, but a great deal of evidence has been produced over the past year to explain why many professional

workers no longer believe that they receive the fair reward for their education, skills and responsibilities which society has always thought it equitable and in the public interest to grant. Many professional workers have emigrated and an increasing number are making plans to go. Retirement as early and as quickly as circumstances permit is now common practice.

Most worrying of all, and most insidiously damaging to the national well-being, is the danger of an internal retreat to a condition of indifference in which the traditional practice of professionals to put service before self-interest is eroded and the opportunity for leisure tends to be put above the satisfaction derived from rendering more than the minimum expected. The nation cannot afford to squander its resources on an expensive and precious resource, especially in these difficult times. We ask the Government to give appropriate weight to these considerations, and in doing so to consult the professions as necessary, before an already serious situation becomes even worse.

Yours faithfully, I. P. BANNERMAN, President, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

J. W. BAXTER, President, Institution of Civil Engineers. B. S. BOOTH, President, Institution of Electrical Engineers. J. C. CAMERON, Chairman of Council, British Medical Association. W. E. DUCKWORTH, Chairman, Council of Science and Technology Institutes.

C. P. FRANKLIN, President, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

GEOFFREY L. HOWE, Chairman of Council, British Dental Association. EWEN MEWEN, President, Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

JOHN F. PHILLIPS, President, Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

CHARLES PRINGLE, Chairman, Council of Engineering Institutions. C. N. THOMPSON, President, Royal Institute of Chemistry.

March 14.

### EEC sugar policy

From Lord Jellicoe. Sir, I was glad to see the letter from Lord Douglas of Barloch (March 12) deploring the "penal levy" which the European Commission has proposed on the production of high fructose syrups (isoglucose).

Lord Douglas mentioned that a factory is due to start production of isoglucose in the London area very shortly. That factory has been erected by Tunnell Refineries of which I am Chairman.

There are five main reasons why I regard the Commission's proposal as little short of scandalous. First, it would mean that investment made in good faith within the Community would be rendered worthless. In the case of Tunnell alone this amounts to £8m.

Second, it would deny to the European consumer a product for which there is a clear and growing demand.

Third, it would deny the Community a new technology which is worth developing and which, if the Commission's proposal is accepted, may well become the monopoly of North America.

Fourth, the proposal has been produced "out of the blue" and without any consultation with the European producers, actual or prospective. Fifth, the proposal is in effect retrospective. It amounts to changing the rules of the game in the middle of the game. It is perhaps this feature of it which I most deplore.

For all these reasons, I sincerely hope that the Commission will be asked to think again when the matter is considered by the Council of Ministers later this month.

I can appreciate that the producers of sugar beet in the Community may be worried about the inroads which this new product could make into their markets. I am also well aware of the strength of the sugar beet lobby in Europe. Nevertheless, their fears would seem exaggerated given the fact that the

total production of isoglucose within the Community would amount on present plans to less than 4 per cent of EEC sugar production by the end of 1978. I am also aware of the mounting concern in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the Community about the growing sugar mountain in Europe. I am convinced, however, that the cause of this has nothing to do with isoglucose and that the cure lies elsewhere than in the imposition of a penal levy on a promising new product.

I should perhaps make it clear that I write as a firm believer in the European idea and as a firm supporter of British membership of the Community.

Yours etc, JELICOE, House of Lords, March 14.

### Direct elections

From the Director of the Electoral Reform Society. Sir, Eric Heffer (March 11) is certainly right about one thing: that if we have a party list system of election there will be the most acrimonious disputes about the order of each party's list.

Mr. Heffer should therefore urge that we use, instead, the single transferable vote—which can be applied to regional constituencies just as easily as a list system can. Each party could then have as many candidates as it liked, without risk of splitting its vote, and leave the voters to choose among them. Mr. Heffer would then have the pleasure of being able to nominate and to give preference to candidates (not necessarily confined to his own party) whose views on the EEC were similar to his own.

We should know for certain how many voters agreed with him, and their views would be reflected in the elected body. Yours faithfully, ENID LAKEMAN, The Electoral Reform Society, 6 Chancel Street, Southwark, SE1.

### The future of Mentmore

From Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, FBA, and the Duke of Grafton.

Sir, The initiative of the National Trust in offering to hold Mentmore Towers is greatly to be welcomed. They are the only existing body with the expertise to run such a house with its fabulous collections and this would offer both a secure future. We feel strongly that this offer should be accepted by the government despite Mr. Shore's categorical statement last week, and Lady B. de Grafton's amplification in the House of Lords. It is clear from what Lord Donaldson said and from estimates by experts in the field of furniture conservation that the DOE's responsibility ends that of the DES will have to start.

The lack of coordination between departments dealing with the Fine Arts is highlighted by the situation over Mentmore and we wonder if it is too much to ask that the Secretary of State for the Environment should look again at the Mentmore problem in conjunction with experts from his own department, from the DES and from outside bodies like the National Trust hitherto unconsulted. This could be regarded as an *amenable* honorable for the extremely short notice with which this problem was sprung on those concerned with our national heritage and the deplorable lack of consultation which this sorry tale has revealed.

Mr. Shore has said that £1m is the maximum which his department is prepared to produce from the Land Fund, and that the rest will have to come from private charity. This is a very shortsighted decision in view of the obvious earnings from the opening of Mentmore as a better return than the car industry at the moment. We feel that to ask private charity to fund £2m for something which most experts regard as a governmental responsibility is immoral. If, however, the government is prepared to pay the capital cost of Mentmore—that is £3m payable to the Rosebery Estate by April 5, then we would be prepared to launch an appeal and enter into negotiations with the National Trust and the other interested parties in an attempt to fund the running cost and the opening of Mentmore to the public.

Yours sincerely, NIKOLAUS PEVSNER, President, Victorian Society, GRAFTON, Chairman, Joint Committee, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Georgian Group, Victorian Society and Civic Trust, March 15.

From Mr. Ian Curtis. Sir, Lord Eccles (March 14) misses the point. Of course it is deplorable that actors, musicians and writers are experiencing poverty and unemployment, that the Victoria and Albert is having opening problems, and the other things he lists; but these are secondary deficiencies. The real problem is that the economy perks up. But if we let Mentmore go now, it will be gone for ever. Yours truly, IAN CURTIS, Little Hatch, Merham, Nr Ashford, Kent.

### Statements on Rhodesia

From Mr. W. R. Ferris.

Sir, I should like to correct some statements made by members of the House of Commons on February 3. The House was discussing the refusal of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to make immediate representations to the Government of Botswana for the return of 400 South African abductees from south-west Rhodesia.

Mr. Ian Evans (Aberdeen) is quoted in Hansard as stating that Bishop Lamont "was subject to false charges and interned". The Bishop, in fact, pleaded guilty to the four charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act, as the state of his trial. He was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, to which sentence he appealed. He was never "interned" or detained in any way.

Lord, Sir Bernard Braine (Essex, South East) stated: "The 1961 Southern Rhodesian Constitution, which if it had been accepted by the Rhodesian electorate, might have led to a far happier future for the country." The position of the Rhodesian Constitution was accepted by the Rhodesian electorate in a referendum in which they voted overwhelmingly for its acceptance.

Mr. Joshua Nkomo, then leader of the Nationalist Group, also accepted the proposed constitution then shortly after reneged on it. Thirdly, Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston-upon-Hull, Central) stated that in the trial of eight terrorists in August of last year, "the evidence was never published and the trial was in secret". This is not the case. Not only the evidence of the trial, but the judgment of the Appeal Court were published, and both trials were held in open court.

Yours faithfully, W. R. FERRIS, Director of Information, PO Box 8150, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

### 'The Times' reappears

From Miss H. M. Root.

Sir, I believe that Mr. Collingwood (March 14) will find that his "Cambridge professor" was in fact Fray Luis de León who, after five years in prison under the Spanish Inquisition, returned to his students at Salamanca University in 1577 with the words "Declamamus ayer..." (as we were saying yesterday...). Yours faithfully, HILARY M. ROOT, 18 Bywater Street, SWS, March 14.

From Mr. Chaim Raphael. Sir, It was horrible when *The Times* was out of joint and this joint was out of *Times*. Yours restored, CHAIM RAPHAEL, 27 Langdale Road, Hove.

## DR OWEN NEEDS TO INFORM HIMSELF

It is surely a mistake for Dr Owen to refuse Mr. Smith's invitation to visit Rhodesia in the course of his factfinding trip to familiarize himself with the problems he faces in southern Africa. He may meet Mr. Smith in South Africa, but that will only familiarize him with the views and personality of Mr. Smith. It will not enable him to make any assessment of Mr. Smith's political position in white Rhodesia, notably in the apparently restive Rhodesian Front. It will not enable him to assess the non-Front whites. It will preclude him from seeing Bishop Muzorewa in his own setting, among his own advisers, and from considering his claim to represent the black majority. Yet these are all quite important bits in solving the southern African jigsaw.

Of course Mr. Smith's invitation rouses Foreign Office

suspensions. Mr. Smith is pushing himself forward, and he has proved so complete a march for the best politicians that can be sent against him from Britain, America or South Africa, that officials fears of falling into some humiliating trap are natural. But it is possible that anxiety prompts Mr. Smith's tourist offer. He rudely rejected Mr. Richard's proposals, but that does not mean he wants no more contacts, and Mr. Richard's experience forearms Dr. Owen. A sounding out of opinions and positions in the post-Kissinger phase, such as President Carter and Mr. Callaghan have sanctioned, must surely include an assessment of trends generally in Rhodesia.

It may be objected that Dr Owen cannot visit an illegal and hostile regime, that he would seem to give it standing. After Geneva we have surely got

literature as an art form mainly by the purchase of virtually all first novels but also by acquiring new poetry and drama in both book and journal format. Sheffield City Libraries are not, I imagine, peculiar in this respect. Indeed, I would assert that many established "literary" sections owe something of their success to the fact that public libraries bought their early

works while individual would be buyers showed their habitual cautious attitude towards the unfamiliar. Yours faithfully, ROBERT ATKINS, Director of Libraries, Sheffield City Libraries, Central Library, Surrey Street, Sheffield.

### Encouraging literature

From Mr. Robert F. Atkins. Sir, Charles Osborne's letter (March 11) includes comments on public libraries which cry out for rejoinders; I will confine myself to one only.

The public library service for which I am responsible certainly does encourage the production of



In contrast, children left alone without breast, bottle or dummy or other soothing stimuli will, they argue, develop the habit of thumb-sucking. Gradually they will extend it to other stressors, such as hunger and anxiety, and the habit may then persist throughout childhood.

By Our Medical Correspondent  
*British Journal of Medical Psychology* (March, 1977, p 95).



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## Two bids passed to monopolies panel but Lonrho gets go-ahead

By Richard Allen  
Associated Engineering's  
sterilely contested bid for Serck, the valve and heat exchange engineers, has been referred to the Monopolies Commission, by Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The announcement, which surprised the stock market and AE directors, came with the news that Mr Hattersley had decided not to refer the proposed merger between Lonrho and Dunford & Elliott.

At the same time, however, another contested bid—that by Sketchley for Johnson Group Cleaners—has been referred to the commission.

In the case of both AE and Sketchley, the reference has been made under "size of assets" criterion of the 1973 Fair Trading Act which enables Monopolies Commission investigation if the company to be acquired has assets of over £5m. The commission has five months to report in each case.

AE's nine-figure share bid for Serck will now lapse and a spokesman for the bidding group said last night that the board will meet later this week to consider whether to return to the commission for approval.

Lonrho's £15.2m cash bid for Dunford & Elliott, which came as a surprise move in the market, was also referred to the commission. The bid was made under "size of assets" criterion of the 1973 Fair Trading Act which enables Monopolies Commission investigation if the company to be acquired has assets of over £5m. The commission has five months to report in each case.

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## Mesa aims to develop Moray Firth oilwell

By Roger Vlievne  
Energy Correspondent

Mesa Exploration Group, in which P & O has a 15 per cent stake, is to go ahead with the development of a small oilfield found in shallow water in the Moray Firth only 12 miles from the coast.

Mesa Petroleum, the operator for the group, said last night that after a feasibility study and the results of first three exploratory wells on block 11/30, it was seeking approval from the Department of Energy for its development plans, which should be ready by the end of next month.

It will be the first new oilfield development programme for several years, and could involve the construction of two steel production platforms and a pipeline.

Although the field contains only an estimated 200 million barrels of reserves, the shallow water—150 feet—and close proximity to land, make it possible to develop the field for between \$150m and \$300m (BP Canada estimated at \$200m). A fraction of the cost for a similar sized field in much deeper water.

Mesa also announced last night that the fourth exploration well on the field designed to delineate the south-western boundary of the field had been abandoned. This did not affect the commercial prospects for the field and another exploratory well would be undertaken later in the year.

Mesa holds a 25 per cent interest in the consortium. Other shareholders are Kerr-McGee, 25 per cent; Hunt Oil, 20 per cent; Crestline Petroleum, 15 per cent; and P & O Petroleum, 15 per cent.

Chevron plans: Chevron Petroleum may reconsider its plans for placing a £45m order for a steel production platform at Highland Fabricators at Nigg Bay, off Aberdeenshire, following a vote yesterday by 700 of the workforce to continue a two-week strike.

Shop stewards had recommended that the 1,800 workers should end the strike, which is over the completion bonus for the steel platform currently being built, also for Chevron. Bonuses of up to £580 had been offered but the men demanded a further £200.

Saudi setback: Bad weather in the Gulf during February has again prevented Saudi Arabia from achieving its plans to boost oil production to an average of 10 million barrels a day during the first three months of this year.

## BP seeks gas in Canada

British Petroleum's Canadian subsidiary has acquired licences to explore for natural gas thought to lie above British Columbia coal reserves bought by the company in January.

Along with Alberta Eastern Gas, which has a 20 per cent stake in the venture, BP Canada has acquired exploration licences for \$Can1,522,990 (nearly £847,000) on nearly 23,000 acres of land in the Montserrat foothills, near Dawson Creek, about 400 miles north-east of Vancouver.

BP has already found substantial quantities of natural gas in other leases in this area. Production testing of wells at Sukunka, Bullmoose and Mast established the possibility of producing 123 million cubic feet of gas a day from reserves estimated at 660,000 million cubic feet.

British Columbia Petroleum Corporation has announced plans to build a gas line and processing plant that would link the area to the main Canadian gas pipeline system.

## Easing of short-term interest rates gives scope for further MLR cut

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

Continuing easier conditions in the money markets brought a number of short-term interest rates back into single figures yesterday for the first time since last spring. This, in turn, pointed tentatively towards scope for a further cut of half a point to 10 1/2 per cent, in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate this week—should the authorities be prepared to see the rate lower.

The more relaxed conditions in money markets of late arise largely from three factors. The first has been that the Government is again operating in deficit, with disbursements exceeding receipts. The second is the fresh overseas demand for sterling and the fact that the authorities have been meeting this demand by buying overseas currencies for the reserves and, in effect, issuing sterling in order to prevent the dollar/sterling rate rising above \$1.72. The third is the apparent lack of demand for funds.

In addition, yesterday saw redemption of the £100m nominal Electricity 3 per cent stock.

Although little more than half this stock was probably left in the market, its redemption, together with last week's Treasury 6 1/2 per cent stock, has probably offset some two-thirds of last Thursday's claw-back of 1 per cent of special deposits (around £35m) from the banking system.

As a result of all this yields on three month Treasury bills fell to 9 3/32 per cent yesterday. Prime bank bills also dropped below 10 per cent for three to six month maturities and other rates were generally lower too. This week's batch of local authority yearling bonds were launched on a 10 1/2 per cent coupon, against 11 1/2 per cent last week.

The fall in the Treasury bill rate, which has been maintained through the tender at the end of the week, would indicate, under the market-related formula for establishing MLR, scope for a fall from 11 to 10 1/2 per cent.

It remains to be seen if the Bank will allow MLR to fall. It has stated that it would, exceptionally, feel free either to hold MLR or lower it only to a rate of its own choice.

Given the authorities' apparent wish to leave the Chancellor scope to offer further cuts in interest rates in the Budget, it may be that the Bank will deem this week exceptional and hold MLR or cut it by only 1/2 per cent.

An advantage of holding the rate at this stage would be to create a potential stick to wield over the discount houses should next week's VAT payments tighten money market conditions and force the houses to turn once more to the Bank for assistance.

A considerable amount may depend on activity in the foreign exchange market. A continued inflow of overseas funds might make it desirable to see interest rates lower if the Bank remains determined to prevent sterling from rising.

Also in the authorities' consideration will be the February money supply figures to be published tomorrow and more particularly, any indications on the subsequent trends from the March banking figures that are due to be made up today (though not published until early next month).

## Top changes likely at Schroders

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke  
Financial Editor

Top level changes at Schroders, one of the leading City merchant banking groups, are expected shortly.

Mr Michael Verney is likely to stay today that he will retire from the chairmanship at the annual meeting in May and that he will be succeeded by Lord Airle.

Lord Airle is 50 and the brother of Mr Angus Ogilvy, Princess Alexandra's husband. He has been on the board of Schroders since 1970 and is also chairman of the main operational arm of the group, merchant bankers J. Henry Schroder Wagg.

Since the departure at the beginning of February of Mr James D. Wolfensohn, who was brought in from Schroders' New York business in 1974 to be group executive director, chairman, it has been widely assumed that Lord Airle would take over from Mr Verney who will be 65 in October.

This change and others likely to be announced today suggest that the difficult internal squabble at Schroders—one aspect of which concerned the possibility of Mr Wolfensohn taking over as chairman—has been peacefully resolved.

While Lord Airle gets the

top job, Mr John Hull is expected to succeed him to the important position of chairman of J. Henry Schroder Wagg.

Moreover, Mr Hull, aged 52, a barrister who became well known in the City during his 20-year tenure in 1974 as director-general of the Take-over Panel, will also become joint deputy chairman of Schroders.

The other joint deputy chairman is expected to be Mr John Bayley, group financial director who has spent some time recently with Schroders Inc and the vice-chairmanship of Commercial Union, which he intends retaining after his retirement from Schroders.

Mr Verney is giving up active merchant banking, it seems probable that he will retire from the chairmanship of the Airle, which he has held since 1974, in May, too.

One possibility is that he will be succeeded by Sir Robert Clark, a deputy chairman of Hill Samuel and chairman and chief executive of its banking group.

Mr Verney succeeded Mr Gordon Richardson as chairman of Schroders in 1973 when Mr Richardson became Governor of the Bank of England.

Although 60 when he took the chairmanship, Mr Verney agreed to go on until he was 65. His particular interest was to broaden the bank's international base.

He has been with the group for 43 years, having joined Helbert Wagg, one of the components of the present group, in 1934. He holds a number of directorships, including the chairmanship of Britton Leazes and the vice-chairmanship of Commercial Union, which he intends retaining after his retirement from Schroders.

## Bonn boosts investment programme

From Peter Norman  
Bonn, March 15

West Germany has decided to step up its planned infrastructure investment programme to more than DM15,000m (about £3,640m) in the period to the end of 1980 from the DM10,000m to DM12,000m level previously under discussion.

In an unexpected announcement Dr Hans Apel, the Bonn finance minister, said this evening that public orders worth some DM3,300m would be placed this year to be followed by an order volume of about DM4,500m in 1978.

The programme, which is an important part of Bonn's plans to cut back unemployment, is due to be discussed by the cabinet a week tomorrow.

It will be carried out by the Federal Government together with the states and municipalities. At present it seems as if the Federal Government will contribute DM3,400m of the total and the states about DM5,400m.

## N Sea ends stagnation in industrial output

By David Blake  
Economics Correspondent

Buoyant production figures from the North Sea oil and gas fields meant that industrial output rose in January by nearly 1 per cent, breaking the pattern of relative stagnation which has been in force since the close of last year.

At the end of January the industrial production index stood at 103.9, up a full point from its December level. In the three months from November to January the increase was 1.3 per cent on the previous three months.

The narrower index of manufacturing industries recorded a much smaller increase of only 0.3 per cent during the same three month period.

Most of the growth occurred in the oil and gas related sectors of the economy, which together account for about 11 per cent of the total weighting of industrial production. The mining sector (including oil production) recorded a 9.8 per cent increase in the three months to the end of January and gas, electricity and water industries had a 9 per cent growth.

Within the manufacturing industries, chemicals and textiles tared relatively well and metal manufacture bounced back in January after a sharp December drop. But growth in the engineering industries, which account for over 30 per cent of total industrial production, was fairly slow.

Comparison between the January and December figures is made more difficult by the disturbing effects of the Christmas and New Year holidays, which clearly depressed production more than usual this year.

Because the holidays were unusually long, the seasonal adjustments seem not to have been sufficient to cope with the holidays, so it is quite possible that the latest figures understate December's output and thus make the improvement.

### INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

The following are the index numbers for industrial production in January, seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1970=100):

	All industries	Manufacturing
1975 Q1	104.7	106.1
Q2	100.3	100.5
Q3	99.7	99.8
Q4	100.5	100.5
1976 Q1	101.9	101.9
Q2	102.4	103.8
Q3	101.6	103.6
Q4	102.8	104.3
1976 September	100.0	100.1
October	100.6	100.7
November	100.8	100.9
December	99.9	99.8
1976 September	102.5	104.5
October	102.5	104.6
November	103.0	104.8
December	102.9	103.7
January D	103.9	104.4

ment in January greater than was really the case. For this reason, the three-month figures are probably a more accurate guide to the way production is moving and they show that the production levels of industry are growing, but only at a gentle rate.

What growth there is seems to be associated almost entirely with a rebuilding of stocks. During the three-month period, output of the intermediate goods industries (most notably fuel) went up 3 per cent. Production of the consumer goods industries went up by 0.6 per cent and, rather depressingly, investment goods industries increased their output only 0.2 per cent.

Although all the surveys suggest that investment will go up sharply this year, the expected increase does not so far seem to be reflected in extra output by British producers of capital goods.

## Sir John bows out of 'the good life'

Sir John Davis officially wound up his 15-year chairmanship of Rank Organisation yesterday before a sympathetic audience of shareholders at a crowded annual meeting.

In many ways, Sir John was very much the ebullient, in-charge company chief. His quips and throw-away lines brought cheers and laughter from the meeting but the theme of his final statement was one of retrenchment and cash conservation.

Asset sales worth £13m have been agreed since the October 31 year end, he revealed, borrowings have been cut by £17m while the improved profit has allowed the company to continue in office until 73. Just before the meeting approved the re-election of Sir Robert Shone also 70-years-old, Sir John neatly thwarted a question on the apparent increase in the boardroom's age by pointing out that "we're investing in youth with Mr Harry Smith who, at 59, takes over the chair".

No hint of the management troubles of the past two years, the Dowson affair and the difficulties of the non-Xerox activities was allowed to come to the surface. Like the shareholders, Sir John's 18 main board colleagues and 12 divisional chiefs clapped him heartily as he wrapped up the meeting.

Sir John is, of course, now



Sir John Davis, left, and Mr Harry Smith, his successor as Rank Organisation chairman, at yesterday's meeting.

70, and it is ironic that directors of that age can now stand for re-election once, allowing them to continue in office until 73. Just before the meeting approved the re-election of Sir Robert Shone also 70-years-old, Sir John neatly thwarted a question on the apparent increase in the boardroom's age by pointing out that "we're investing in youth with Mr Harry Smith who, at 59, takes over the chair".

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He allowed himself just one hint of emotion. "It's been a good life", he said and talked of his close and valued friendship with the late Lord Rank. The two had talked of the future of Sir John, who had given a promise, just before Lord Rank died, that he "wouldn't give up the chairmanship until the traditions and management succession of the company had been secured".

He gave no inkling of what his non-executive presidency or other business interests might involve—the restoration of Westminster Abbey where he is senior trustee takes much of his time—but he made it clear that Mr Smith would have satisfied all Lord Rank's requirements.

Ray Maughan

## Grindlays recovery to £30m profit

By Adrienne Gleason  
Banking Correspondent

Last year's results from Grindlays were expected to show a big recovery, but the figures announced yesterday surprised even the optimists.

Thanks to a £30m turnaround by its principal subsidiary, Grindlays Bank, the parent company, Grindlays Holdings, has produced 1976 pre-tax profits of £30.13m against a 1975 loss of £3.1m.

And the directors, who made a token interim payment after passing the group's dividend for three half-years running, have stepped up the final to bring the gross dividend for the year to 3.85p a share.

The news sent the shares, which have more than doubled within the past six months, another 10p higher to 74p.

Although the problems with property loans which have beset Grindlays' merchant banking subsidiary, Brantley, are not yet entirely out of the way—there are still substantial amounts "lent on which Grindlays Bank is not receiving any interest—the elimination of last year's £18m provisions against such loans has been principally responsible for the swing at Grindlays Bank from losses (before tax) of £6.4m in 1975 to profits of £30.45m in 1976.

Financial Editor, page 21

## EEC move to toughen steel measures

From Michael Hornsby  
Brussels, March 15

Tough new measures designed to restore the EEC's steel industry to health are under preparation by the European Commission and are expected to appear on the agenda of the summit meeting of the Nine in Rome on March 25 and 26.

Proposals, including the introduction of minimum prices and import licensing, are to be submitted to the commission for approval tomorrow by Viscount Etienne Davignon, the commissioner responsible for the steel industry.

A draft of the new measures will then be forwarded on Thursday to the consultative committee of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) in Luxembourg, which brings together commission officials, steel manufacturers and trade union representatives.

The new proposals are intended to reinforce the commission's existing anti-crisis measures based mainly on voluntary pledges by steel companies, or groups of companies, to limit their sales on the EEC market to specified levels. (There is no limit on production or stockpiling.)

These existing measures, which were introduced on January 1 and recently extended until the end of June, have had little discernible impact so far on the depressed steel market, even though 90 per cent of producers are said to be abiding by them.

In an attempt to arrest the deterioration in steel prices since last autumn, the commission now envisages the introduction of an obligatory minimum price for reinforcing bars on the basis of Article 61 of the ECSC Treaty, and the voluntary observance of minimum prices for other steel products.

Some 60 per cent of production of reinforcing bars is accounted for by independent Italian manufacturers who have been among the minority refusing to comply with the existing anti-crisis guidelines.

This explains the tougher nature of the measures proposed for this sector.

In addition, the commission intends to propose a system of obligatory import licences. Although these would be issued automatically on submission of statistical data regarding price and volume, Brussels apparently hopes that surveillance of this kind would discourage importers.

In the past, steel manufacturers have always refused to accept minimum prices without an accompanying ban on imports. Such controls would fit badly, however, with the EEC's generally anti-protective posture in international trade negotiations.

## Trust Houses Forte Limited

Results:	1975/76	1974/75	%
	£m	£m	Increase
Trading Receipts	451.7	369.8	22%
Trading Profit	40.5	30.2	34%
Profit before Taxation	23.7	13.3	78%
Profit after Tax and minority interest	10.6	5.9	80%
Earnings per share	11.75p	6.84p	72%

### Extracts from the Chairman's Statement

... the Company continues to show improved results and the future looks promising ...

... Profit before taxation of £23.7 million is 78% higher ...

... we have acquired 35 hotels from J. Lyons & Co. Ltd. ... The Company is strengthening its position in the United States still further by the acquisition of the Knott Hotels Corporation ... During the year our stockholding in Travelodge International Inc. was increased to 95% ...

... the industry provides jobs for 1,300,000 people in this country and is the fourth largest employer of labour ...

... current trading has got off to a good start ...

Extract from the Annual Report for the period ended 31st October, 1976. Copies of the Report can be obtained from The Secretary, Trust Houses Forte Limited, 1 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 4UH.

## THF have over 800 hotels and 3,000 catering establishments worldwide

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## How the markets moved

### Rises

Anglo-Indonesian	7 1/2 to 57p
Anglo-Indonesian	8p to 20 1/2p
Grindlays	10p to 7 1/2p
Heath C. S.	8p to 57p
Hill C. Bristol	15p to 118p
Imp Cont Gas	14p to 38 1/2p
Judge Int	12p to 23p

### Falls

Amal Metal	5p to 23 1/2p
Clayton Dewar	4 1/2p to 85p
Deamid	9p to 38p
Finlay J.	5p to 21 1/2p
Johnson Grp	5 1/2p to 45 1/2p
Jolani	5p to 19 1/2p
Lake & Elliot	5p to 45p

Equities had a busy session. Gold rose \$1.75 to close at \$146.625. SDR-5 was 1,156.40 on Tuesday, while SDR-E was 0.672550. Commodities: Rubber's index was at 1738.5 (previous 1730.8). Reports, pages 22 and 24

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The Times index: 174.20 -0.22

The FT index: 427.9 -0.9

### THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	Buys	Sells
Australia \$	1.62	1.57
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50
Belgium Fr	63.50	62.50
Canada \$	1.65	1.60
Denmark Kr	10.42	10.02
Flund Mkt	6.75	6.50
France Fr	8.80	8.48
Germany Dm	4.28	4.06
Greece Dr	65.00	62.00
Hongkong \$	1.20	1.15
Italy L	155.00	150.00
Japan Yn	505.00	480.00
Netherlands Gld	4.45	4.23
Norway Kr	9.35	8.97
Portugal Esc	68.50	64.50
S Africa Rd	1.87	1.84
Spain Pes	122.0	113.50
Sweden Kr	7.55	7.20
Switzerland Fr	4.56	4.34
US \$	1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr	34.75	32.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by the Bank of England. Bank of England rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.



## Rescue proposals for footwear manufacturers being speeded up

By Derek Harris  
With foreign imports accelerating, the final drafting is being pushed through of a rescue scheme for British footwear manufacturers. This follows an agreement in principle over the package by the industry's tripartite steering group.

Among 30 recommendations expected to go shortly to Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, are 10 which, if fully implemented, could provide around £10m in aid.

But even as the report, which has been two years in preparation, reaches Mr Varley's desk, the threat from foreign imports grows stronger.

The problem is a move in the United States to protect its domestic footwear makers from a 48 per cent penetration by overseas manufacturers.

President Carter has barely three weeks to decide what to do about footwear import curbs

recommended by the United States International Trade Commission.

The British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation estimate that if the American curbs are imposed about 125 million pairs will be excluded from that market. That leaves Europe, including Britain, as the prime substitute selling area.

Foreign imports, some severely undercutting British products at the wholesale price level, have already carved out a much larger slice of the British market—some 42 per cent at the end of last year, a 20 per cent increase over the previous year.

Imports in January showed a rise to 14.2 million pairs worth £21.7m, the equivalent of an 18 per cent rise over the previous year and a 43 per cent increase in value.

At least 6 per cent of the industry's workforce is now on

short time and trade union returns indicate that about 4,000 jobs were lost last year.

It looks likely that the manufacturers' federation, backed by trade unionists, will press for urgent government action, probably the setting up of quotas for all foreign imports except those from EEC and, perhaps, EFTA countries.

The steering group, which includes representatives of the industry, its unions and Whitehall departments, is expected in its final report to stress the imports problem as well as discussing the domestic industry's shortcomings.

Schemes for improving export marketing are discussed, together with an increase in the industry's design capability. Recommendations for aid, to be spread over a number of years, are expected to include some injection of funds under Section 8 of the Industry Act.

## Wholesalers urge end to profits curb

By Our Commercial Editor  
A strong plea for the removal of gross profit margin controls on distributors and wholesalers when new controls on prices are introduced in August was made yesterday to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection by the Federation of Wholesale and Industrial Distributors.

The federation, which represents all non-food wholesalers, urged that only net profit margins be kept for distributors. Lord Harman-Nicholls, federation president, pointed out that with gross profit margins tied to historic figures established in 1973 the subsequent rises in wholesalers' costs were now having their effect and wholesalers were not generating enough profit to replace stock.

In its commentary on the Government's consultative document on price restraint the



Lord Harman-Nicholls, president of the federation representing all non-food distributors.

federation maintains that a three-month price freeze during an investigation by the Price Commission is "far too long and in itself an arbitrary penalty".

An appeal procedure should be built into the new code, the federation suggests. It also urges that wholesalers should be exempt from the new code where more than 75 per cent of their business is in exports.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The cost of providing services for overseas visitors to Britain

From Mr Nicholas Baker

Sir, The chairman of the Tourism Development Committee of the British Hotels Restaurants and Caterers Association (Mr W. Adkins) suggests (March 3) that this country "is second to none in its reputation of hospitality and the way it receives its guests". Both to me and to many visitors whom I have encountered this seems an over optimistic view of standards in our hotels and restaurants.

I am however more concerned with the statements in Adkins' letter that tourism is "a growth industry almost unique in Britain at the moment and which is likely to contribute an ever increasing major addition to our balance of payments" and that an ever growing tourist industry is desirable.

Surely it is time for the net cost of providing tourist services here to be adequately calculated instead of being dealt with in generalities of the kind contained in Mr Adkins' letter.

May I suggest that the following questions be carefully examined before any further growth in tourism in this country is encouraged:

1. How much foreign labour is imported into this country in order to service hotels and restaurants which are the base for a tourist industry, after taking account of remission of earnings abroad and social security and welfare costs borne by the community?
2. What is the likely impact upon our inner urban areas of increased tourist traffic and hotels and hotel rooms?
3. Consequently upon any expansion of tourism in our inner cities what would be the environmental effects of any further movement of residents at one extreme and individual tourism at the top end of the market at the other?

5. How can the pressures of noise, traffic, crowding, invasion of privacy and use of public transport which accompany mass tourism be reduced to make life more tolerable for residents in both inner urban areas and in tourist areas outside conurbations?

I do not believe we can take for granted any more the bland assumptions by leaders of the tourist industry that tourism is an unmixed blessing which will bring nothing but benefit to our economy. The time has come for a good hard look at tourism in this country and a full cost benefit analysis.

Perhaps the British Tourist Authority would make a start by answering the questions I have posed.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS BAKER,  
Prospective Parliamentary Candidate,  
North Dorset Conservative Association,  
Dale House,  
Blandford Forum,  
Dorset,  
March 11.

## BSC in scrap buying policy talks

By Our Industrial Correspondent

High-level talks on the future of its controversial scrap-buying policy are to take place at the end of this month between the British Steel Corporation and the British Scrap Federation.

Sir Charles Villiers, the corporation's chairman, has invited Mr Roy Boost, executive vice-president of the BSF, for preliminary discussions. This meeting is expected to be followed by another session which will be attended by leaders of the scrap industry.

The scrap industry has been pressing for changes in the corporation's scrap purchasing policy for nearly three years and the pressure for change has been building up.

The BSC's policy has split the federation's membership and the two-tier buying policy under which suppliers of scrap are categorized as direct and indirect suppliers of scrap to corporation plants has led to a great deal of disquiet.

According to scrap industry sources, the BSF will press the corporation to amend its policy to enable those companies which are able to supply 500 tons of scrap a week to BSC plants to join the list of direct suppliers.

This, it is understood, would increase the number of direct suppliers from below 20 companies to about 70. The direct suppliers receive a premium payment over their indirect supplier counterparts.

The federation is also understood to be pressing for regular meetings between the corporation and the direct and indirect suppliers.

## Private steelmakers intent on iron ore plant

By Peter Hill

A firm decision by British private sector steelmakers to go ahead with the construction of a £50m iron ore direct reduction plant on the north-east coast is expected to be announced by the end of this week.

The project has been discussed for about three years and will represent the first move by the steelmakers into the direct reduction process.

The project will attract EEC and British government financial assistance, and it is understood that the plant will be located at Jarrow.

Principal participants in the consortium—North Sea Iron—

are the Canadian-owned Sheerness Steel—the United Kingdom's first mini-mill steelmaker, Consolidated Cold Fields and its subsidiary, Tennant Trading.

Other partners are understood to include private sector steelmaker, Patent Shaft, Tube Investments on behalf of its 50 per cent owned private sector company, Rourkela; Oak; Norway's Elkem Spigerverket, which owns the recently established United Kingdom mini-mill; Manchester Steel and Det Dansk Staalvalseværk of Denmark.

Fiat of Italy has also apparently joined the venture and there is speculation that the German Thyssen group may also take an equity stake.

Direct reduction of iron ore

enables it to be reduced into pelletized or briquetted form, which can then be used as an alternative raw material to scrap in electric-arc steel-making.

Last November it was expected that Sheerness, Consolidated, and Tennant would take up to between 45-50 per cent of the equity with the balance shared between the other participants, although the final equity shares are expected to be completed tomorrow.

The consortium is expected to choose the Purofer direct reduction process developed by Thyssen which has already built a plant using this process in Brazil.

Output, which could reach an annual capacity of up to 800,000 tonnes will be shared

among the participants, with Consolidated and Tennant marketing world-wide the surplus tonnage.

Tennant is one of the United Kingdom's leading suppliers of ferro alloys to steelmakers and it is expected that it will negotiate fixed tonnage long-term supply contracts to customers both in the United Kingdom and in Europe who are outside the consortium.

It is widely expected that the ore for the new plant will be shipped to the United Kingdom from South America and South Africa and will involve construction of new unloading facilities.

The plant is likely to employ between 200-300 workers when it is in operation and the likely start-up date is during 1979.

## Plea by MPs on Plessey closures

By Malcolm Brown

MPs from Merseyside and the north east saw Lord Ryder, chairman of the National Enterprise Board, in London yesterday to discuss problems in their areas as a result of the Plessey decision to close down northern factories and make 4,000 redundant.

The board has been asked by the Prime Minister to report on the investment potential of the affected areas to see if the impact of the Plessey affair can be lessened.

Kirkby sit-in: Workers at the Kirkby Plessey Telecommunications plant on Merseyside where yesterday they would maintain a sit-in if supplies of components were withdrawn to prevent the continuation of their 11-day protest.

## First fall for 15 years in world shipbuilding output

By Peter Hill

Output of ships from the world's shipyards at 33.9 million tons, fell for the first time in 15 years last year, down 280,321 tons on the previous year.

Japanese shipbuilders had the largest reduction in output—down by more than 1.1m tons on the previous year—but the Japanese yards are still pursuing aggressive marketing policies to keep their yards occupied. Figures issued by the Japan Ship Exporters' Association yesterday showed that yards obtained 40 contracts from foreign owners last month totalling nearly 432,000 tons deadweight compared with 20 export contracts in January.

The February intake of work

by Japanese yards was boosted by an order for nine ships totalling 150,000 tons from Poland.

Last month, at a meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's shipbuilding committee, Japan agreed to introduce measures to curb its sales of ships in Europe. The Japanese Government has introduced a 5 per cent rise in the price of export ship contracts (although they will still remain considerably below comparative European prices).

Meanwhile, figures published by Lloyd's Register of Shipping confirm the downward trend in output. Nevertheless, last year's output was the second highest recorded.

## Terms of peace pact agreed at Linwood

At the end of six hours of talks the 10-day unofficial strike of 450 men in the transport workers' union at the Linwood plant of Chrysler (Scotland) was resolved yesterday after half the labour force of 6,000 had been laid off.

Mr John Carty, the convenor of shop stewards at the plant, said that the decision had still to be accepted by a meeting of the workforce but he believed this was a formality.

He said that the document produced by the company outlining procedure for industrial disputes, which the union had refused to sign until now and had been the cause of talks breaking down, had now been signed by six senior shop stewards of the transport union.

Peter Waymark writes from Geneva: Mr Don Lander, Chrysler vice-president for Europe, said here yesterday that the British subsidiary should meet its objective of breaking even this year.

## Leyland—a test-bed for Bullock?

From Colonel J. M. Hopkinson

Sir, May I suggest a simple solution to the Bullock controversy, coupled with a possible chance to save British Leyland? The plan is to make Leyland a test-bed for Bullock. I suggest a three to five year trial, the choice to rest with the TUC. Meanwhile the Bullock Report should "lie on the table".

For the trial to be of any value, there should be no feather-bedding. Government or NEB subsidies should be limited to those already promised. No loans or guarantees for loans should be made by the Government or any public bodies. The company should borrow, when necessary, from the market or its bankers. If equity capital is raised, half should first be offered to the public, not underwritten by the Government or public bodies. The other half should be put up by the NEB *pari passu* with the amount subscribed by the public. In this way, the issue would be judged by the usual criteria of performance, profits and prospects.

The trial could start almost

immediately. As the control (95 per cent) lies with the NEB, no Act of Parliament would be necessary. If the trial is a failure, we shall at least know that Bullock is either unwanted by the workers, or unworkable. If, however, this unique opportunity is seized by the Leyland workforce, determined with enthusiasm to make a great success, not only will British Leyland be saved, but it would prove that Bullock can work.

In many ways, Leyland would be the ideal subject for the trial, but some special latitude would have to be given to the new board to sort out the angle the company has got into regarding differentials and also the difference between plants. I suggest that the new board should be permitted to correct these within the total limits of Phase 3 of the Code, for example, the board might decide that any increase should go wholly to groups of workers whom it deems to have been unfairly treated in recent years.

One free tip to the new board—do not call the proposed new Mini, the Leyland Bullock? It should have a ready sale to

trade unionists, here and abroad.

Yours faithfully,  
J. M. HOPKINSON,  
Chairman,  
Automatic Business Machines Limited,  
11 Wyfold Road,  
London, SW6.

From J. V. Burgess  
Sir, Two days ago I received a letter from a friend working overseas, who will be retiring shortly and coming to live in this country, asking me to place an order for him for a Mini Clubman Estate car.

This morning there arrived the following telexed message: "In view Leyland chaos if not committed on Mini Clubman Estate please chase to Ford Escort 1300 Estate."

British Leyland workers may be interested to learn that I have done as requested. Equally they may ponder the fact that this is unlikely to be an isolated case.

J. V. BURGESS,  
Garden Cottage,  
Holmbury Hill Road,  
Holmbury St Mary,  
Dorking,  
Surrey, RH5 6NR.

## Company liability and subsidiaries

From Mr B. A. Baldry

Sir, The principle of limited liability continues to serve the generally useful purpose of encouraging individuals to put their money to work without risking their all. This useful test is questionable in the case of the proprietor/manager and the concept is grossly abused when a company can avoid its liabilities by the simple precaution of incurring them through a subsidiary.

Since it is probably too much to hope that MPs will spend quietly at home with their wives the time during which they will not now be debating devolution, perhaps they would care to devote five minutes or more to the enactment of a Companies (Implied Guarantees) Bill which would automatically impure a guarantee by any company of all the liabilities of any subsidiary which it controlled with an

interest of, say 75 per cent or more.

There are no doubt more colourful contenders for a space in the vacuum but there can be some more sensible.

Yours faithfully,  
B. A. BALDRY,  
Tenth Floor,  
St Nicholas House,  
St Nicholas Road,  
Sutton,  
Surrey, SM1 1EN.  
March 7.

EXPOR  
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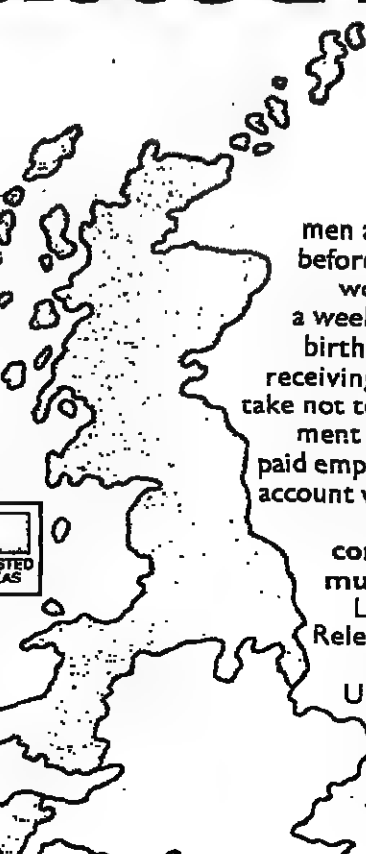
## EMPLOYERS You should know about the Job Release Scheme for Assisted Areas.

The scheme is a temporary measure and is confined to workers in the Assisted Areas of Great Britain. You will find details of the Assisted Areas on the map and in the leaflet referred to below. Separate arrangements apply in Northern Ireland.

If any of your workers decide that the scheme will benefit them and apply for Job Release, they must have your agreement before they can give up their jobs. Taking part in the scheme is entirely voluntary in both cases.

On your part, if you agree to their leaving, you must recruit people from the unemployed register to replace them—though not necessarily for the same jobs.

The Job Release Scheme offers



men aged 64 and women aged 59 or before 30 June the opportunity to stop work up to a year early and get £23 a week tax-free until their 65th or 60th birthdays respectively. While they are receiving this allowance they must undertake not to claim any benefit for unemployment or incapacity, or to engage in any paid employment or business on their own account where earnings exceed £4 a week.

If your employees wish to be considered for Job Release, they must apply by 30 June.

Leaflets with full details of the Job Release Scheme are available from any Employment Office, Jobcentre or Unemployment Benefit Office. Just ask for copies of 'Job Release Scheme: Employed People'. Or ring 01-214 6403 or 01-214 6497 for information.

JOB RELEASE SCHEME  
Issued by the Department of Employment DE

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Grindlays on the rebound

Grindlays is being remarkably about the ways and whereof its £38m pre-tax profits are, but certain elements it emerge quite clearly. First, a group has started to run a tax losses an estimate of £140m built up in the United Kingdom over the two preceding years; and the implication that the United Kingdom taxation are profitable for all at the group is still taking things into account on some of a property loans incurred by Grindlays down to £70m at the 75 balance sheet date, and still improving.

Secondly, if the United Kingdom side is coming good the overseas side must be good ready; the group admits to a 10 per cent improvement pre-tax, and a charge of £14.5m, the bank implies well over £10m above the line. And third, a 15.4 per cent dividend provides any purchasers at last year's 74p with a mere 5.2 per cent in dividend yield, the fact at Grindlays is paying so much its first year of recovery implies better things once the ground is consolidated.

The question for shareholders now, though, is whether the group will be going in for an exercise in strengthening the balance sheet in the immediate future. True, retention of £13m in the bank represents "an important increase in capital resources"—though there had been compensation for the depletion of the cash and loan stock in the preceding year. Grindlays and the bank's 18 minority older, Citibank, 18 months ago.

But Grindlays, like every British bank, and to a greater extent than most because of its heavy involvement in overseas banking, has been suffering from the effects of sterling depreciation on its deposits, and the consequent erosion of the value of capital to debt. And neither the presence of two powerful shareholders nor the newly impressive profits performance remove the old arguments in favour of a rights issue.

Final 1976 (1975)  
Sales £38.5m (£28.5m)  
Pre-tax profits £2.96m (£2.25m)  
Earnings per share 9.61p (9.43p)  
Dividend gross 5.913p (5.375p)

Earnings per share 19.8p (28.6p)  
Dividend gross 3.85p (NIL)  
Loss

Pentos

New style conglomerate

Bright young men from the table of First National City Bank have, understandably, tended to be an embarrassment around the City in recent years, and it is possible that Mr Terry Maher's links with that unfortunate tertiary bank have coloured City thinking about Pentos. He is chairman of this apparently classic conglomerate of unconnected businesses held together more by an inability to strip out the assets of the integral companies than by any form of commercial logic.

The conglomerate formed by merger of the two banks, left in a physical form only by the message of time and by the fall from fashion of paper deals as means of breaking up under-illuminated companies is a frequent sight on the market these days. And it is easy to see Pentos at this time. Certainly, the share price has ignored the group's earnings growth in recent years and its rating suggests that this is the general view of the group. Is it a misconception?

Two common themes run through Pentos: Mr Maher's management links which prelate the establishment of equity control in the main group companies—and the commercial logic of combining volume sales operations whether they be books, greenhouses or engineering valves.

In 1976 Pentos produced profits of £2.96m on sales of £38.5m. The bookkeeping and publishing group provided the bulk of the improvement, as the application of modern marketing methods and the expansion of book sales and new product lines had the effect of capitalizing on the existing goodwill and long-established book lists of previously sleepy family-controlled publishing companies.

This concentration of marketing effort has had its effect on the garden and leisure side as well, where greenhouse and garden product sales initially linked to a limited number of garden centres have now been pushed into the chain stores. Some 90 per cent of greenhouse sales are now through stores, and the addition of Pentos products in the latest Sears and Roebuck catalogue in the past month raises the possibility of rising United States sales.

At 57p, unchanged on the results, the shares value a well covered 10.5 per cent on a p/e ratio of just under 6. I think this is too cautious a rating that owes more to prejudice about an ENFC protégé than to any rational consideration of Pentos's performance.

Final 1976 (1975)  
Capitalization £11.4m  
Sales £38.5m (£28.5m)  
Pre-tax profits £2.96m (£2.25m)  
Earnings per share 9.61p (9.43p)  
Dividend gross 5.913p (5.375p)

Trust Houses Forte

A transformed balance sheet

Events have partly overtaken Trust Houses Forte's latest balance sheet with the purchase of the Lyons hotel interests, sale of the Terry sweet business and disposal of its Thomas Cook stakes since the October, 1976, balance sheet date.

Even when these are taken into account, there is no disputing the growing strength of what used to be thought a dicey balance sheet.

Indeed, the latest events are more likely than not to reinforce the view that the balance sheet is unlikely to be a constraint on the share price. It has been in the past. For a start the Lyons deal is being funded on very advantageous terms, while the inclusion of the hotels for a ten month period in the current year should mean at least £2m addition to profits.

Even though intra-group debt applicable to Terry's rub some of the shine from the Colgate Palmolive deal, the £173m it will get from its sale will comfortably cover the down-payment on the Lyons hotels. Meanwhile, the Lyons balance sheet shows an impressive build-up in TEF's net liquid resources with the rights issue helping to push up cash and short-term deposits from £9.7m to £28.6m while bank overdrafts have fallen from £14.3m to only £2.3m. And, as for the share price, the fact that the share price has ignored the group's earnings growth in recent years and its rating suggests that this is the general view of the group. Is it a misconception?

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This is in connection with a play and a musical to be staged by Walter Jekel's Grosvenor Entertainments, the first they have put on since Sir David recently became chairman. As is usually the case with

Low retentions, meanwhile, are hardly a problem for a group that is heading for £33m profit ex-Lyons this year. But the question overhanging the shares after the way they have outperformed the market since last year is how much further up go, especially as there will be cum-dividend buyers until early May which may still induce Allied Breweries to part with its one-fifth stake.

Accounts: 1975-76 1974-75  
Capitalization £15.6m  
Net assets £125.7m (£90.8m)  
Borrowings £183.4 (£175.2m)  
Pre-tax profit £22.7m (£13.5m)  
Earnings per share 11.75p (6.84p)

Brooke Bond Liebig

Tea price conundrum

The good news from Brooke Bond Liebig is that more than half the £6.8m increase in the half-year profits of £16.7m before asset sales came from other sources than the soaring price of tea, which, according to one estimate could reach 30p a quarter by the end of the year.

Tea prices at auction rose 54 per cent in the six months but while the overseas plantation companies benefited, the United Kingdom tea companies did not. Difficulties in raising retail prices at a time of soaring tea values were created both by the market place—although there was no drop in consumption—and Price Commission rules.

The rise in profits was split almost equally between the United Kingdom and overseas, and in the United Kingdom it came from a more buoyant market in the Oxo-Fruy Bunnas and wholemeal teas (where there was a firm turnaround from losses) and at Baxter's, the recently-acquired meat retailer, which bucked the trend in its sector.

Estimates for the year start at £36m and the only worry for the shares at 55p is where the prospective yield of 7.1 per cent is that even the British might get fed up with the price of a nappa.

Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)  
Capitalization £11.4m  
Sales £33.9m (£25.7m)  
Pre-tax profits £16.8m (£10.2m)  
Dividend gross 1.16p (1.06p)

Herbert Morris

Next move to Babcock

Herbert Morris has a dilemma. It wants to remain independent yet, with Babcock & Wilcox sitting on 39 per cent of the equity, it recognizes that this is now probably a waste of time. It has been courting other partners.

Clearly, the Babcock offer of 143p a share is not enough—providing a exit p/e of only 4.3—and Morris is right to fight it at this level.

But if Morris has a strong case on the terms of the offer and on strict moral grounds, its defence looks somewhat shaky on the grounds of industrial logic. Babcock may not have had a particularly successful early venture into cranes but it now has ACCO.

Babcock has turned down an offer for its stake said to be over 200p a share (the takeover panel may yet be asked to look into comments made by the Morris chairman, Mr Patrick Robinson last week on this subject) and while Babcock may have to increase its offer again to win it will by no means necessarily march 200p.

But with the Morris shares standing at 193p, the market thinks that a revised offer is on the way.

Painting their wagons: Sir David Brown and Walter Jekel in London yesterday.

anything in which Sir David has a hand, there is an element of novelty. Jekel, with Sir David's help, has persuaded Berger, the German-owned paintmaker, to put up a third of the £40,000 or so production costs.

Jekel says it is the first time that commercial theatre finance has been raised from industry. According to Grosvenor, the Berger investment is being regarded as "an ongoing situation", whatever that may be.

## Leyland: the Ryder plan in ruins?

"I think there could easily arise a situation where neither I nor my board would recommend that the Government should put more money into Leyland. I do not think that is too difficult, too unlikely or too remote a possibility."

That was the view expressed nearly a year ago by Sir Richard Dobson, the former tobacco industry chief coaxed by the Government into the British Leyland boardroom to succeed the late Sir Ronald Edwards as managing director. Those words are no longer speculation, but cruel reality. For just two weeks ago the Leyland directors went to their parent National Enterprise Board to say that because the cars division is not generating enough cash they cannot recommend the injection of further public funds into this side of their business.

Apart from the toolroom strike, Leyland has been in trouble for some months, with inventories and capital schemes ravaged by inflation and sales targets missed through labour disputes and poor productivity. Not one director can place his hand on his heart and declare that there is any chance of the £1,500m of trading profits required between 1977 and 1983 under the Ryder reorganization plan.

In the summer of 1975 the Department of Industry bought some 78 per cent of the old B.L. equity for £46.4m and in October 1975, subscribed a further £200m of taxpayers' monies for new shares in a reconstructed company, British Leyland. This gave the Government 95 per cent of the shares in the new concern, which had £47,500 a year chief executive, Mr Alex Park.

Almost half the £200m was promptly used to pay off some exceptional loans that had kept the motor giant afloat during 1975. These were over and above normal overdraft facilities backed by state guarantees. The result was that Leyland was left with £100m for the grand designs for the company's future drawn up by the Government-appointed Ryder committee of inquiry.

In January, 1976, the Government reaffirmed that Ryder's proposals remained the basis for future reorganization and a month later transferred its shareholding for a valuation of £246.9m to the new state holding company, the NEB, whose chairman was none other than Lord Ryder.

One of Mr Park's first acts was to go to the clearing banks to renegotiate the overdraft facilities, and there was also a big rise in cover from the Export Credit Guarantee Department. So Leyland went into last year with £100m, some extra short-term borrowing and the prospect of drawing investment capital from either the NEB or the department, or both.

Within a few months, the board, now headed by Sir Richard, former chairman of what is now B.V. Industries, had prepared a corporate plan and told the NEB of its immediate financing needs. Indices of productivity and industrial disputes had been improving.

The corporate plan covered the period 1975 to 1983. It had not been published, but it apparently indicated that the profits to be generated would cover only increased working capital requirements. There would be a negative cash flow for some years, and even capital expenditure might be initially slower than forecast when Ryder projections first became the basis of Leyland's reconstruction.

Lord Ryder told the Government that the group's new corporate plan was a sound framework and urged the provision of £100m of public funds for refurbishing factories and starting new model development programmes. That was in June last year. Lord Ryder, prisoner of his own arithmetic and statements, could hardly back down. His team, put together when he was Cabinet industrial adviser, estimated that £1,400m would be needed by Leyland from outside sources by 1980.

British Leyland's share of the domestic market fell in 1976 to 27.4 per cent from 30.9 per cent in 1975, and had slumped to 26.3 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year. This compares with the Ryder report's objective of securing 33 per cent of the market.

The company's car output rose by 14 per cent last year compared with 1975, helped by the impact of sterling depreciation on export demand. But it was still 200,000 units short of targets. Disputes at Rubery Owen and the toolroom strike have caused a slump in output over the past four months, with production of 11 out of 18 models at a standstill.

81, of which £900m had to be consistent with its duty as a company with obligations to its shareholders and creditors. Every week that has passed brings nearer the possibility of technical insolvency.

Secondly, on the evidence that it lost in 1976 one fifth of its planned production schedules and has begun 1977 with disastrous levels of output, the board has to ask itself whether it can expect to deliver the £1,500m in internally generated profits over the next seven years to qualify for the £1,000m it needs from external sources (mainly the taxpayer).

In this situation, and after correspondence with Leyland, the NEB has concluded that there can be no further funds for the cars plan, including the new Mini.

Exactly two weeks ago, the NEB gave warning that if cash continues to flow out of Leyland at the present rate, a drastic review of the cars plan will have to take place, at the latest during March. Even if production is quickly restored at this late hour, the NEB is still demanding tangible measures for improved and sustained productivity before putting in investment funds.

In short, the whole Ryder plan is now endangered. The dream of Leyland becoming a viable volume car producer in the 1980s may be shattered.

This has left the NEB with the responsibility for £70m, drawing this on its own account from the National Loans Fund, but less any sums that Leyland might raise itself from non-public sources.

Drinking on this money have only just begun. As far as can be established, the Government is still holding on to its £30m, but the NEB has just paid over £25m from its own funds and is now agonizing over the other £25m.

Now, if paid, still leaves Leyland with the need to find £20m at a time when it is now losing £10m to £15m a week, when bankers are getting rest less and the "big spend" implicit in its 1977 business plan simply cannot be justified.

It is true, of course, that Leyland is about to report a profit of £75m on its operations in the 15 months ended December 31, 1976. But most of this came from non-car activities and exchange rate gains.

The board of Leyland has been driven by the financial crisis besetting Leyland Cars to the point where the cash flow and productive performance cannot sustain the ambitious cars plan, for which funds have to be found by other means.

Leyland has been due to revise its corporate plan and roll it forward this summer. The present crisis, however, arises because it is necessary to provide some of the new funds, scheduled in the 1977 business plan, before the summer decision on the very large commitments envisaged in the original Ryder strategy.

The funds cannot be held up without jeopardizing the whole capital expenditure programme. It has to be understood that the NEB is required by the Government to be concerned not solely with expenditure in any one year but with the total large-scale expenditure in each part of the reorganization programme.

Besides this duty, the NEB is also required to be satisfied in screening capital projects ahead of the major review due this summer that necessary improvements in productivity have been discussed and accepted by the workforce.

The Leyland board therefore faces two problems. First, it is fighting for short-term survival.

Secondly, it is fighting for long-term survival.

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In short, the whole Ryder plan is now endangered. The dream of Leyland becoming a viable volume car producer in the 1980s may be shattered.

This year Leyland faces the prospect of paying both interest and instalment repayments on various long-term loans; it has to finance new methods of dual-source stockbuilding; and it has to supply more cars than in any recent year to distributors both at home and abroad. All this, and more, arises when the entire profit of 1976 and part of 1975 has been wiped out in the first six weeks of its new financial year.

Lord Ryder asked Leyland to become more profitable than any European motor producer had ever been. Yesterday, the Government made it quite plain that the latest ultimatum to the toolmakers does not transform the books.

It said: "Whatever happens, a review of British Leyland will now be needed. How drastic it will be will depend on the speed with which full production is restored."

He admits, too, that at present he knows next to nothing about international trade. But he does not regard this as a disadvantage. "You can learn a lot of things and I'm sure I'll be able to learn all I have to about this. At least it means that nobody knows what my views are and that means that I start without having any opponents."

"This helps... I want to maintain a certain mystique about myself for as long as possible."

Mr Strauss pointed out that it would be inappropriate for him to discuss specific aspects of the negotiations before him but he leaves absolutely no doubt that he will be an extremely tough negotiator.

His greatest asset and one that should gain him respect among his European counterparts is his good contacts with the leaders of the Congress. He knows these leaders well and

counts many of them among his personal friends after working for the past few years to unify the Democratic Party and to make it into the effective machine that produced last November's election successes.

He said that this would help him, in so far as foreign leaders would know that he would be able to speak forcefully and clearly for the United States and that the commitments he entered into would win the backing of the Congress. His extensive political contacts and his ability to win congressional support for President Carter's trade policies appear to be key reasons for his appointment.

"I don't consider myself a protectionist and I suppose my instincts are those of a free-trader... but I don't have any fixed positions right now and I don't want to discuss substantive issues at this time," he said. He added: "I am a negotiator. It was the chief strength I brought to my political life."

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## Tough Texan heading for the trade talks

"I wouldn't recognize a single European finance minister if I passed him on the street today. ... By the end of this year I will know each one of them well... I will travel long and I will travel hard and go wherever there is a problem."

These are the words of Mr Robert Strauss, former chairman of the Democratic National Committee, whose appointment to the Cabinet post of United States Special Trade Representative was announced last week.

Mr Strauss will have overall charge in this of American trade negotiations with the EEC, the developing countries and with the Communist block. Recently he gave *The Times* his first interview, since the news of his forthcoming appointment was leaked in Washington.

A colourful and powerful Texas Democrat, he is disarmingly candid and says bluntly that his candour may at first be one of his biggest problems in negotiating with Europeans. He stresses that he always says exactly what he means.

"I will have to convince people that I really am candid. I stay out in front of my positions, not behind them. I don't hold anything back and this way of negotiating has served me very well so far. I can imagine that some foreign people are going to find it difficult to get used to this."

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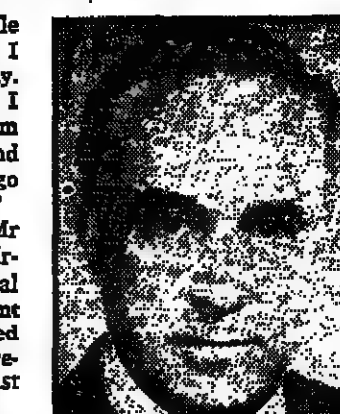
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## Cope Allman International Limited

An international Group of companies engaged in packaging, engineering, fashion and leisure.

Interim results (unaudited) for the half year to 31st December, 1976

	6 months to 31.12.76 £000's	6 months to 31.12.75 £000's	Year ended 25.6.76 £000's
Group Sales	72,364	65,425	116,837
Profit before Taxation	3,936	1,822	5,374
Earnings Attributable	1,683	715	2,205
Earnings per Share	4.39p	1.87p	5.76p

Exports to non-Group customers rose 50% to over £10 million during the half year. Profit before taxation for the full year is forecast to be about £8 million.

An interim dividend was declared of 1.4p (1976—1.0p). It is the Directors' intention to declare dividends for the year totalling 3.0886p (1976—2.8078p)—the maximum permitted under current legislation.

27 Hill Street London W.1.

## Robeco Invests in strength

Highlights from the Annual Report 1976

- \* Even more emphasis laid on investment in stronger countries.
- \* Assets invested in America



## Business Opportunities

**Offshore Technology Conference**  
HOUSTON—MAY 1977  
Director of British Agency will attend and is able to represent interests of companies wishing to market Marine or Offshore equipment.  
Reply by 7th April 1977  
Hax 2410 P, The Times.

**EXHIBITION** organisers with considerable experience in the field of exhibition planning and design are seeking to supply Middle East experience. Box 6047, The Times.

## LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00245 of 1977  
In the High Court of Justice in England, Chancery Division, the Court has given judgment in the case of *London College of Secretaries v. Secretary of State for Education and Science*. The judgment was given by Mr. Justice Goff on 15th March 1977. The judgment is available in the form of a printed copy for sale at the price of £1.00 per copy. The printed copy may be ordered from the Stationery Office, 100, Broad Street, London W1C 3QU. The printed copy may also be ordered from the Stationery Office, 100, Broad Street, London W1C 3QU. The printed copy may also be ordered from the Stationery Office, 100, Broad Street, London W1C 3QU.

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Tel. 01-435 9831

**GUIDANCE IS FOR ALL AGES**  
B-15-27-37-47-57-67-77-87-97-107-117-127-137-147-157-167-177-187-197-207-217-227-237-247-257-267-277-287-297-307-317-327-337-347-357-367-377-387-397-407-417-427-437-447-457-467-477-487-497-507-517-527-537-547-557-567-577-587-597-607-617-627-637-647-657-667-677-687-697-707-717-727-737-747-757-767-777-787-797-807-817-827-837-847-857-867-877-887-897-907-917-927-937-947-957-967-977-987-997-1007-1017-1027-1037-1047-1057-1067-1077-1087-1097-1107-1117-1127-1137-1147-1157-1167-1177-1187-1197-1207-1217-1227-1237-1247-1257-1267-1277-1287-1297-1307-1317-1327-1337-1347-1357-1367-1377-1387-1397-1407-1417-1427-1437-1447-1457-1467-1477-1487-1497-1507-1517-1527-1537-1547-1557-1567-1577-1587-1597-1607-1617-1627-1637-1647-1657-1667-1677-1687-1697-1707-1717-1727-1737-1747-1757-1767-1777-1787-1797-1807-1817-1827-1837-1847-1857-1867-1877-1887-1897-1907-1917-1927-1937-1947-1957-1967-1977-1987-1997-2007-2017-2027-2037-2047-2057-2067-2077-2087-2097-2107-2117-2127-2137-2147-2157-2167-2177-2187-2197-2207-2217-2227-2237-2247-2257-2267-2277-2287-2297-2307-2317-2327-2337-2347-2357-2367-2377-2387-2397-2407-2417-2427-2437-2447-2457-2467-2477-2487-2497-2507-2517-2527-2537-2547-2557-2567-2577-2587-2597-2607-2617-2627-2637-2647-2657-2667-2677-2687-2697-2707-2717-2727-2737-2747-2757-2767-2777-2787-2797-2807-2817-2827-2837-2847-2857-2867-2877-2887-2897-2907-2917-2927-2937-2947-2957-2967-2977-2987-2997-3007-3017-3027-3037-3047-3057-3067-3077-3087-3097-3107-3117-3127-3137-3147-3157-3167-3177-3187-3197-3207-3217-3227-3237-3247-3257-3267-3277-3287-3297-3307-3317-3327-3337-3347-3357-3367-3377-3387-3397-3407-3417-3427-3437-3447-3457-3467-3477-3487-3497-3507-3517-3527-3537-3547-3557-3567-3577-3587-3597-3607-3617-3627-3637-3647-3657-3667-3677-3687-3697-3707-3717-3727-3737-3747-3757-3767-3777-3787-3797-3807-3817-3827-3837-3847-3857-3867-3877-3887-3897-3907-3917-3927-3937-3947-3957-3967-3977-3987-3997-4007-4017-4027-4037-4047-4057-4067-4077-4087-4097-4107-4117-4127-4137-4147-4157-4167-4177-4187-4197-4207-4217-4227-4237-4247-4257-4267-4277-4287-4297-4307-4317-4327-4337-4347-4357-4367-4377-4387-4397-4407-4417-4427-4437-4447-4457-4467-4477-4487-4497-4507-4517-4527-4537-4547-4557-4567-4577-4587-4597-4607-4617-4627-4637-4647-4657-4667-4677-4687-4697-4707-4717-4727-4737-4747-4757-4767-4777-4787-4797-4807-4817-4827-4837-4847-4857-4867-4877-4887-4897-4907-4917-4927-4937-4947-4957-4967-4977-4987-4997-5007-5017-5027-5037-5047-5057-5067-5077-5087-5097-5107-5117-5127-5137-5147-5157-5167-5177-5187-5197-5207-5217-5227-5237-5247-5257-5267-5277-5287-5297-5307-5317-5327-5337-5347-5357-5367-5377-5387-5397-5407-5417-5427-5437-5447-5457-5467-5477-5487-5497-5507-5517-5527-5537-5547-5557-5567-5577-5587-5597-5607-5617-5627-5637-5647-5657-5667-5677-5687-5697-5707-5717-5727-5737-5747-5757-5767-5777-5787-5797-5807-5817-5827-5837-5847-5857-5867-5877-5887-5897-5907-5917-5927-5937-5947-5957-5967-5977-5987-5997-6007-6017-6027-6037-6047-6057-6067-6077-6087-6097-6107-6117-6127-6137-6147-6157-6167-6177-6187-6197-6207-6217-6227-6237-6247-6257-6267-6277-6287-6297-6307-6317-6327-6337-6347-6357-6367-6377-6387-6397-6407-6417-6427-6437-6447-6457-6467-6477-6487-6497-6507-6517-6527-6537-6547-6557-6567-6577-6587-6597-6607-6617-6627-6637-6647-6657-6667-6677-6687-6697-6707-6717-6727-6737-6747-6757-6767-6777-6787-6797-6807-6817-6827-6837-6847-6857-6867-6877-6887-6897-6907-6917-6927-6937-6947-6957-6967-6977-6987-6997-7007-7017-7027-7037-7047-7057-7067-7077-7087-7097-7107-7117-7127-7137-7147-7157-7167-7177-7187-7197-7207-7217-7227-7237-7247-7257-7267-7277-7287-7297-7307-7317-7327-7337-7347-7357-7367-7377-7387-7397-7407-7417-7427-7437-7447-7457-7467-7477-7487-7497-7507-7517-7527-7537-7547-7557-7567-7577-7587-7597-7607-7617-7627-7637-7647-7657-7667-7677-7687-7697-7707-7717-7727-7737-7747-7757-7767-7777-7787-7797-7807-7817-7827-7837-7847-7857-7867-7877-7887-7897-7907-7917-7927-7937-7947-7957-7967-7977-7987-7997-8007-8017-8027-8037-8047-8057-8067-8077-8087-8097-8107-8117-8127-8137-8147-8157-8167-8177-8187-8197-8207-8217-8227-8237-8247-8257-8267-8277-8287-8297-8307-8317-8327-8337-8347-8357-8367-8377-8387-8397-8407-8417-8427-8437-8447-8457-8467-8477-8487-8497-8507-8517-8527-8537-8547-8557-8567-8577-8587-8597-8607-8617-8627-8637-8647-8657-8667-8677-8687-8697-8707-8717-8727-8737-8747-8757-8767-8777-8787-8797-8807-8817-8827-8837-8847-8857-8867-8877-8887-8897-8907-8917-8927-8937-8947-8957-8967-8977-8987-8997-9007-9017-9027-9037-9047-9057-9067-9077-9087-9097-9107-9117-9127-9137-9147-9157-9167-9177-9187-9197-9207-9217-9227-9237-9247-9257-9267-9277-9287-9297-9307-9317-9327-9337-9347-9357-9367-9377-9387-9397-9407-9417-9427-9437-9447-9457-9467-9477-9487-9497-9507-9517-9527-9537-9547-9557-9567-9577-9587-9597-9607-9617-9627-9637-9647-9657-9667-9677-9687-9697-9707-9717-9727-9737-9747-9757-9767-9777-9787-9797-9807-9817-9827-9837-9847-9857-9867-9877-9887-9897-9907-9917-9927-9937-9947-9957-9967-9977-9987-9997-10007-10017-10027-10037-10047-10057-10067-10077-10087-10097-10107-10117-10127-10137-10147-10157-10167-10177-101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## MARKET REPORTS

## Coffee, cocoa regain lost ground

Coffee and cocoa staged advances in the London markets yesterday which took them back to the ranges ruling before last Thursday's price collapse, in the case of coffee, to new highs.

In coffee, fresh buying and shortcovering by both trade and local dealers took some prices over the £4,000-a-tonne level in morning trading, November reaching £4,052.50. At the afternoon close spot March was £2,750 up on the day at £4,052.50 and May had gained £233.50 to £4,107.50 per tonne.

Cocoa also advanced strongly and at the afternoon close spot March was £238 up on the day at £2,664 while May had gone £238 ahead to £2,610.50.

The metals were buoyant yesterday with lead showing the best gains of £16 for three months, to £16.75 for three months.

The gains in zinc were £8.50 for cash and £8 for three months.

Copper, after a three-month run, was £1.50 up on the day at £1.50. The gains in zinc were £8.50 for cash and £8 for three months. The gains in zinc were £8.50 for cash and £8 for three months.

## Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

STRAIGHTS		Bid	Offer		Bid	Offer	
Alcan 1988		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1981	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1989		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1982	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1990		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1983	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1991		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1984	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1992		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1985	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1993		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1986	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1994		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1987	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1995		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1988	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1996		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1989	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1997		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1990	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1998		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1991	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 1999		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1992	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2000		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1993	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2001		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1994	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2002		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1995	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2003		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1996	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2004		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1997	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2005		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1998	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2006		103.5	104.5	Quebec 1999	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2007		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2000	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2008		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2001	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2009		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2002	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2010		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2003	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2011		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2004	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2012		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2005	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2013		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2006	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2014		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2007	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2015		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2008	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2016		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2009	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2017		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2010	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2018		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2011	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2019		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2012	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2020		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2013	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2021		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2014	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2022		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2015	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2023		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2016	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2024		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2017	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2025		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2018	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2026		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2019	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2027		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2020	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2028		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2021	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2029		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2022	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2030		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2023	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2031		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2024	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2032		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2025	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2033		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2026	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2034		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2027	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2035		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2028	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2036		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2029	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2037		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2030	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2038		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2031	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2039		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2032	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2040		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2033	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2041		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2034	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2042		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2035	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2043		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2036	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2044		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2037	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2045		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2038	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2046		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2039	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2047		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2040	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2048		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2041	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2049		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2042	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2050		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2043	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2051		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2044	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2052		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2045	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2053		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2046	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2054		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2047	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2055		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2048	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2056		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2049	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2057		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2050	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2058		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2051	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2059		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2052	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2060		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2053	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2061		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2054	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2062		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2055	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2063		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2056	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2064		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2057	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2065		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2058	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2066		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2059	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2067		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2060	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2068		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2061	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2069		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2062	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2070		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2063	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2071		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2064	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2072		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2065	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2073		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2066	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2074		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2067	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2075		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2068	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2076		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2069	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2077		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2070	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2078		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2071	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2079		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2072	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2080		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2073	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2081		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2074	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2082		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2075	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2083		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2076	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2084		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2077	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2085		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2078	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2086		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2079	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2087		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2080	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2088		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2081	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2089		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2082	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2090		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2083	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2091		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2084	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2092		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2085	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2093		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2086	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2094		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2087	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2095		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2088	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2096		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2089	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2097		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2090	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2098		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2091	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2099		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2092	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2100		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2093	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2101		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2094	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2102		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2095	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2103		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2096	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2104		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2097	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2105		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2098	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2106		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2099	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2107		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2100	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2108		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2101	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2109		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2102	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2110		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2103	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2111		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2104	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2112		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2105	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2113		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2106	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2114		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2107	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2115		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2108	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2116		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2109	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2117		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2110	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2118		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2111	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2119		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2112	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2120		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2113	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2121		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2114	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2122		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2115	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2123		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2116	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2124		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2117	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2125		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2118	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2126		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2119	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2127		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2120	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2128		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2121	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2129		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2122	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2130		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2123	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2131		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2124	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2132		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2125	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2133		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2126	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2134		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2127	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2135		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2128	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2136		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2129	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2137		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2130	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2138		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2131	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2139		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2132	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2140		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2133	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2141		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2134	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2142		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2135	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 2143		103.5	104.5	Quebec 2136	101.5	102.5	Quebec
Alcan 214							



Applications now please to Marketing Services  
Booth Street West Manchester M15 6PB Tel. 061-273 5228 Telex 668354

**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

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# La creme de la creme Opportunities

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

## Secretary to Personnel Director West London

Here's a chance to land an interesting and rewarding job working for the Personnel Director of one of the world's leading cosmetic houses. You should be aged 25+ with first class secretarial skills and a flair for dealing with people at all levels of business. Responsibilities will extend to P.A. work, general administration and the recruitment of secretarial staff. The successful candidate must have the ability to work on their own initiative and to cope effectively with peaks in workload. An attractive salary is offered together with a wide variety of fringe benefits including generous discounts on company products. A flexible working hours system is in operation. If you are interested please telephone or write to Peter Stirling, Personnel Manager, Coty Limited, 941 Great West Road, Brentford, Middx. Tel: 01-560 5282.

Coty

## Senior Customer Relations Officer Ealing, W.5

Interested in consumer affairs? If you have a mature, responsible, friendly personality, a good command of English and are aged 25-35, this is an opportunity with a difference. You'll be a Senior Customer Relations Officer in our busy Ealing Head Office and will be responsible for supervising the activities of one section of the department. You'll be responsible to the Customer Relations Manager who will give you comprehensive training. You'll need tact and thoroughness to resolve our customers' queries and problems and an ability to communicate effectively both by letter and telephone with the public, our service organisation and branches. In return we'll offer a salary of £2,200-£4,000 and fringe benefits associated with a major Company. Flexible non-compulsory pension scheme, subsidised restaurant and flexible working hours. Our modern offices are convenient for trains and buses, as well as the M4. Write with brief but complete details of education and experience to: People Out, Personnel Officer, Coty Ltd., 44-46 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W5 2SU.

## MIDDLE EAST UP TO £8,000 TAX FREE SHARJAH

Amman, Jordan requires a first-class experienced Secretary for its Chief Executive. This is a demanding post and the successful candidate must have a high level of initiative and be able to handle a wide range of confidential matters. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to travel extensively. The successful candidate will be offered a salary of £8,000 tax free plus a generous benefits package. Applications should be sent to: Mr. J. A. D. H. Sharjah, P.O. Box 100, Amman, Jordan.

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

required by the Secretary Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the professional body for Pharmacy. Varied and interesting work requiring personal initiative, immaculate shorthand, typing and senior secretarial experience required. Luxury offices in new headquarters, 4 weeks holiday, superannuation scheme, subsidised restaurant, Age 28 to 40. Salary £4,000. Applications marked "Private" giving full particulars of education and experience to D. F. Lewis, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN.

## MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

based in the City requires mature, competent Secretary, capable of running a small Secretariat and insuring its smooth operation with the minimum of supervision. Salary negotiable from £3,500 p.a. Please apply in writing with career details to Mrs. Wendy H. Elise Allan Ltd., Plantation House, 5-8 Mincing Lane, London EC3M 3DX.

## TOP SECRETARY

A commercial company with activities throughout Europe requires a top Secretary for the London office. The person we are seeking will have completely mastered the basic secretarial skills of shorthand, typing and text, and will have several years' experience. Fluency in at least one European language is essential; two languages would be a distinct advantage. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate initiative, diligence and a willingness to hard work. Occasional extra work will be involved, and a very attractive salary will be paid to the right person. Please reply in writing, with details of your career to date, to: Department S. R. PETER MASSON & PARTNERS LIMITED, 40/42 Fleet Street, London EC4A 3DF.

## REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Company marketing first floating Arab/British luxury expedition taking 120 famous shops and industries in a luxury liner to Arab countries needs a Senior Secretary. Must be extrovert, reliable, v.g. background and skilled. Starting salary £3,400 p.a. Please telephone 01-828 5201 or 7599.

## HOLBORN SOLICITORS

Secretary (one preferably over 25) required for Principal. Good shorthand, typing, and dictation skills. Hours 9.30 to 5.30, 13.45-1.45. Salary £2,500 negotiable. Please telephone 01-405 4054.

## UP, UP AND AWAY...

From a secretarial job into business! Start with £25,000—and with a career. Here from Euxine Globe at 24 J. Persimmon. 588 0174.

## Registrar £3,000

This is an important and responsible position based at the Royal Veterinary College in North London involving three days attendance each week. You will act as Registrar for The Farriers Registration Council, obtaining the recommendations of the 1975 Farriers Registration Act. You will act as secretary to the Council, attending quarterly meetings annually, and handling the financial aspects of the operation. There will be responsibility for receiving and processing applications for registration and performing accountancy functions related to the fees. Reporting to the Chairman, and assisted by a part-time clerk you will also be expected to attend four meetings of the Craft Committee of the company of Farriers each year. The Position will suit a mature man or woman probably aged over 30 and your expenses will be met in addition to yearly salary. Contact Vera Barber on 01-235 7089 Ext. 321.

## PROFESSIONAL and EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

This vacancy is open to male or female candidates.

## Max Factor

## We really offer responsibility!

One of our Senior Product Managers requires a highly organized and effective secretary to ease the pressures and deal with the varied situations that arise in the fast-moving Marketing Division of an international cosmetic company.

The salary and fringe benefits will attract someone aged between 23-28 years. Previous marketing and/or cosmetic experience would be an advantage.

Please apply: Miss W. Muir, Recruitment Officer, Max Factor Ltd., 16, Old Bond Street, London, W.1. Tel: 493 6720.

## MOVE FROM BEING JUST A SECRETARY!

A financial organization employing 55 people in a luxurious office near Oxford Street seeks an Assistant to their Administration Manager. In addition to secretarial duties the holder of this job will be involved in all aspects of personnel and administrative work—from interviewing junior staff to assisting with the reorganization of systems and documentation.

The position will suit an enthusiastic person aged 23 upwards who is prepared to undertake a wide range of duties and work hard in a pleasant but fast-moving atmosphere. Salary to £3,500 plus L.V.s, free B.U.P.A. and overtime when necessary.

Please contact Barbara Tapkins, Telephone 01-486 7041.

## EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Vice-President/Treasurer of a U.S. Multi-national requires experienced first class Secretary in Knightsbridge offices. Applicants must have excellent shorthand/typing abilities and possess initiative to organize and control work flow and schedule. Work involves European finance and language ability would be helpful. ATTRACTIVE SALARY—free lunches and flexible working hours.

Contact Jane Hickman at 01-584 3224

## SECRETARY TO MANAGEMENT

The Management of the London Branch of Japanese Bank in the City seek a smart, well educated Secretary with excellent English and ability to compose own letters. Accuracy and reliability are essential. Age 20-30. Commencing salary minimum £3,000 negotiable. Bonus twice a year.

PHONE MISS BISSEKER, 01-606 6101, ext. 212

## ARE YOU WORTH £4,000 A YEAR?

Private Audio/Shortland Secretary/P.A., aged 28-35, for 2 Principal Partners of West End Chartered Surveyors. Requirements:

- 1st class Secretarial and organising abilities
- desire for job involvement
- bright personality
- neat appearance
- and sense of humour

Please apply, giving full details of previous experience, to: Mr. N. C. Jackson, Conway Ref., 44 St James's Place, London SW1A 1PG.

## £4,000 p.a.

for personable, friendly, mature, and efficient Secretary to a Senior Partner of a large City Legal firm. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: SECRETARIES PLUS 01-283 9953 (The Executive Secretaries' Bureau) 170 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

## SOUTH OF FRANCE circa £6,000

SECRETARY / ADMINISTRATOR to assist Senior Personnel Executive of international firm in MARSEILLE. Responsible and varied work for experienced secretary (27-38) with fluent French and shorthand in English and shorthand in French. Interviews London, shortly.

## MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

22 Charles Cross Road, WC2 0AB 01-486 3794/5

## MANAGING DIRECTOR

of International London Agency needs a first class Secretary to assist him in all aspects of Agency life. 28-35. Advertising experience not essential. £2,500.

## 'THAT AGENCY'

165 Kensington High St., W.8 01-877 4336.

## £3,500 + PERKS

Young Personnel Officer of a major international firm requires bright, energetic, and efficient Secretary. Must be well organized, able to handle a wide range of duties, and able to deal with clients. Salary £3,500 plus L.V.s. Please telephone 01-877 3822.

## Marlene Lester

10 Wigmore St., W.1. 01-877 3822.

## Top Jobs for Executive Secretaries

P./Assistant S.W.7. to £3,668 Required for the Marketing Manager of a horticultural association linking Producers and Buyers. Secretarial experience is required but the duties are wide ranging and initiative is welcomed. Hours 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Over 5 weeks' holiday. Pension scheme. Contact: Mrs. J. Armit 01-235 9984

Chairman's P.A. Newmarket For a business concerned with all aspects of consultancy and selling of thoroughbred horses on a world wide basis. The requirement is for a thoroughly experienced Secretary with good skills. Candidates will be at least 25 years old and able to deal with clients in person and on the telephone. Own office. Neg. to £3,500. Contact: Miss A. Moriarty 01-235 9984

Late night opening 6.45 pm every Thursday. Telephone Mrs Dorothy Allison (Manager) on 01-235 9984 for an appointment at 4-5 Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, SW1

## BILINGUAL SECRETARIES

GERMAN/ENGLISH plus a knowledge of Czech, Hungarian, Polish or Russian required for small, friendly Export Sales Group

We need top class people with excellent Secretarial skills to fill newly created posts in our company. The workload varies considerably, sometimes involving mainly correspondence, telex and telephone liaison with European clients. At other times you will be meeting clients from Westbury (therefore driving licence essential), making hotel, travel and business arrangements, and the hours would vary accordingly. Salaries envisaged are c £3,750 p.a.

Please telephone initially to discuss and arrange interview. Mr. Start MECHANICAL HANDLING CONSULTANTS LTD., 59-72 Tottenham Road, W.C.1. Tel: 01-406 1732, 10-1.

## SECRETARY

required for Finance Director/Company Secretary, S.W.1.

Must be 25+, confidential, efficient, like figure typing and using initiative. Own office, IBM typewriter, excellent salary, L.V.s., contributory pension scheme and BUPA.

Write with c.v. to Box 0536 J, The Times.

## DIRECTORS SECRETARY

Mature secretary required by Director of Company in Mayfair concerned with projects in France and the U.K. A good working knowledge of French is necessary as occasional trips to France are likely to be involved. Pleasant personality, good educational background plus first-class shorthand and typing skills. Attractive offices and conditions, good salary, lunch vouchers and many other benefits. Ring: Ann Carter, 16 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0DX. Tel. 01-499 0444.

## LADY LINGUIST/LIAISON PARTNER MEDITERRANEAN

A new firm of professional building and civil engineering consultants being formed to work mainly in North African countries urgently require an attractive lady aged around 30 to join their team. The lady must be fluent in English/French at least and prepared to reside abroad. A considerable five-figure tax free salary, car, accommodation is provided. Please send personal details, in confidence, together with a recent snapshot, to: BOX 0599 J, THE TIMES

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT AND SECRETARY

Salary circa £3,500 p.a.

Required for the District Administrator of Tower Hamlets Health District. He needs high level secretarial support to assist him in his task of co-ordinating and developing the Health Services in London's East End. The work is demanding and requires considerable organisational ability, competence on detail, skill in dealing with people and absolute discretion. This is an interesting post with wide variety of duties. The offices are pleasant and adjacent to the London Hospital (Whitechapel). 5 day week, 3 weeks and 8 days holidays. Contact: D. J. Kemp, District Administrator, 53, Philip Street, London, E1 2JY. Tel: 01-247 5804. Tower Hamlets Health District—part of the City and East London AHA (Teaching).

## SECRETARY MAYFAIR

The partners of a top firm of Personnel Consultants require an experienced SECRETARY with charm and initiative who enjoys dealing with people. Own office in small and elegant, well situated offices. Normal secretarial duties including small switchboard. Salary not less than £3,300 plus L.V.s. Please telephone 493 1811

Michael Davis (Shipping) Ltd., 111, Mortlake Road, Richmond, Surrey

A SHIPPING MANAGER/ SYSTEMS CONTROLLER (Position open to both male and female applicants.) See General Vacancies.

## CJES

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576 Telex 867374

## Personal Assistant to Managing Director

£3,250-£4,000 + INCENTIVE SCHEME

## LEADING MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Applications are invited from career minded experienced Secretaries of public or grammar school education, aged 23-32. Intelligence, enthusiasm and organising ability are essential, together with the ability to work under pressure in a fast moving environment without losing a sense of humour. Responsibilities will include all normal secretarial duties as well as working closely with the Managing Director in the recruitment of top Executive and professional level personnel. The successful candidate will be skilled in liaising with top level clients and candidates and must have the capability to take responsibility in the absence of the Managing Director. Longer term prospects offer formal training for consultancy. Initial salary negotiable £3,250-£4,000 + profit incentive scheme, free B.U.P.A., free permanent sickness scheme, contributory pension scheme and free life insurance. Applications in strict confidence, under reference PA454/TT, to the Managing Director.

## Executive Secretary

£3,500-£4,000 + BONUS

## INSURANCE BROKERS

This is a new vacancy and is open to literate, numerate and attractive secretaries, aged 23-35, with fast and accurate shorthand and typing. The successful candidate will be responsible to a newly appointed Main Board Director specialising in Life and Pensions Insurance for all his correspondence, superannuation, investment and general enquiries. Essential qualities include the ability to work quickly and effectively under pressure, resilience and a sense of humour. French would be an advantage as would a Driving Licence. Initial salary negotiable £3,500-£4,000, own modern office, 50p L.V.s. Applications in strict confidence under reference E854/TT to the Managing Director.

## P.A./Secretary

£3,500-£4,000

## U.K. SUBSIDIARY OF U.S. WINE AND SPIRIT COMPANY

We invite applications from secretaries aged 25+ with a public school background to act as assistant in our subsidiary office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the efficient daily running of the office, being in sole charge during the frequent absences abroad of the Managing Director. Duties will include dealing with day to day correspondence, travel (literatures), reception of visitors and general administration. Necessary qualities are an autonomous, well balanced and reasonable outlook, self-reliance and sense of humour. French an advantage though not essential. Excellent conditions include own office, attractive working hours, B.U.P.A., and four weeks' holiday. Applications in strict confidence under reference PA455/TT to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LIMITED, 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TEL: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 867374

## Two Secretaries for Project Support

We're Bechtel, a major Company involved in the design, construction and management of major engineering contracts worldwide. We are currently handling a number of important long term projects and require two alert, experienced secretaries with first-class shorthand and typing to assist Technical Services and Project Support Management. Considerable interest and involvement are offered in both jobs. A fairly substantial remuneration is offered in common with the other staff of the Technical Services Secretary will need a systematic approach to technical record checking and maintenance. The company offers very attractive salaries and conditions. A wide range of benefits includes 30p L.V.s, paid overtime, flexible hours and modern surroundings in offices close to tube and bus stations. Write or telephone for an application form to: Pippa Lindsay, Bechtel International Limited, Bechtel House, 245 Hammer Lane, London W6 8DP. Tel: 01-741 5094.

## CLOSE BOND STREET SENIOR SECRETARY/P.A.

International Marketing Company with European Head Office in Madrid. Requires experienced Secretary/P.A. for Manager of their London office. Responsible person with attractive personality to deal with important clients. Prestige offices, new IBM typewriter. Salary negotiable around £3,400. Apply in writing with full c.v. to Mr. G. C. Loates, INTERNATIONAL GOLD CORPORATION, 30 St. George Street, London W1V 8FA.

## SECRETARY/P.A.

Director-General of the British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation is seeking an experienced Personal Secretary due to retirement. Ability to work with people at all levels essential. Might appeal to person in mid-thirties desiring a responsible and interesting job. Own office, L.V.s, 4 weeks holiday, 100% contributory pension, 24 hours shift, 24 hours shift. Salary approx. £3,500 according to experience. Applications are invited, in confidence, to Mr. C. Felden, Director-General, B.F.M.F., Royal House, 72 Dean St., London W1V 5HS.

## Finding yourself a new job isn't that easy and you could probably make good use of some expert help along the way. Why not contact Monica Grove or one of her colleagues at her employment consultancy at 29 St. James's Street (839 1082); they won't point you in any direction you don't want to go, won't be anything other than helpful and understanding, and will be pleased for you to make up your own mind about the many possibilities that they will outline to you.

## I NEED SOMEONE GOOD TO LOOK AFTER MY BOSSES!

They're two really super men—one is the Managing Director and the other is a Board Director in a busy W.I. advertising agency. The work is demanding and varied, with a lot of administration, including recruiting secretaries, organizing functions and telephone contact. My successor will need to have good secretarial skills as well as audio experience, and we are prepared to pay a good salary for the right person. For further information please contact Jayne Allen on 01-499 0477.

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